

Hafa Adai!

Bantalan Sugar Dock Beach 'adopted' by BSDI. **PAGE 2**

Olivia and Liam still most popular baby names in 2022. **PAGE 13**

\$1

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXXIII, Issue No. 95

www.saipantribune.com

MONDAY, MAY 15, 2023

www.facebook.com/saipantribune

Over 130 lined up for free DOD medical, vet exercise

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. Department of Defense is set to send over 130 military personnel to the CNMI in July to provide various medical services to the communities of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

The Innovative Readiness Training, to be called CNMI Operation Wellness, will have trained medical personnel from various branches of the

military providing free medical services that includes vision screenings, health exams, dental, public health education, and more.

See **OVER** on Page 4

Zelenskyy meets Pope and seeks backing for Ukraine's peace plan

By **FRANCES D'EMILIO**
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ROME (AP)—Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy had private talks with Pope Francis at the Vatican

on Saturday, later saying he sought support for Ukraine's peace plan from the pontiff, who in the past has offered to try to help end the full-scale war launched by Russia

See **ZELENSKY** on Page 4



OFFICIALS FOR A DAY

Honorary governor Ana Nakatsukasa, left, and honorary lieutenant governor Genia Draper take over the Governor's Office as part of Man Åmku' Takeover Day celebration last Friday. The occasion was part of Older Americans Month activities. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios and Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang proclaimed the month of May 2023 as Older Americans Month, also known as *Mes Man Åmku'* and *Marameer Tuufey*, with this year's theme, "Aging Unbound."

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR



This image made available by Vatican News shows Pope Francis meeting Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy during a private audience at The Vatican, Saturday, May 13, 2023. AP

OPD secures grant to help improve tourist sites

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

In his previous capacity as deputy director of the Office of Planning and Development, Christopher Concepcion and his team were able to secure much needed funding to improve a few

tourist sites in the CNMI.

This was learned in an interview with Concepcion, who is now



Concepcion

the Marianas Visitors Authority managing director, who said that through his prior po-

sition at the Office of Planning and Development, they were

See **OPD** on Page 4

\$12M awarded to combat climate change in US territories

A total of \$12 million from the Inflation Reduction Act has been allocated for climate

change planning, mitigation, adaptation and resilience for the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam, the Com-

monwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Story on page 14

'TOUCHBACK' COUNTDOWN

Days until 'touchback rule' takes effect on Sept. 30, 2023:

138

INSIDE



BUSINESS

Guam Regional Medical City is awarded "2023 Best Off-Base Medical Service in the Pacific."

PAGE 15



HEALTH & WELLNESS

Skin cancer is the most common type of cancer in the United States, according to the CDC.

PAGE 18



LIFE & STYLE

Swedish singer Loreen wins the Eurovision Song Contest on with her power ballad "Tattoo."

PAGE 19



SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.



GOT A NEWS TIP?

TEL: 235-6397 / 235-2440 FAX: 235-3740 EMAIL: editor@saipantribune.com



Members of the Bantalan Sugar Dock Inc. join their president, Rose Camacho, holding plaque, and the man'amko mayor for the day, Rita Reyes, right of Camacho, after the "Adopt-A-Place" ceremony at the Sugar Dock Beach in Chalan Kanoa last Friday morning.

LEIGH GASES

Local

Bantalan Sugar Dock Beach 'adopted' by BSDI

By LEIGH GASES
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Bantalan Sugar Dock Inc. has adopted the Sugar Dock Beach in Chalan Kanoa to maintain.

The Saipan Mayor's Office held an "Adopt-a-Place" ceremony last Friday morning at the wooden pavilion near the Sugar Dock, which was attended by Saipan Mayor Ramon "RB" Camacho, BSDI president Rose Camacho, BSDI members, and man'amko officials of the day, as part of the celebration of May as Mes Man'amko or Older Americans Month.

Former lawmaker Martin



LEIGH GASES

Saipan Mayor Ramon "RB" Camacho and mayor for the day, Rita Reyes speak to the crowd during the "Adopt-A-Place" ceremony at the Sugar Dock Beach in Chalan Kanoa last Friday morning.

Ada, who is an adviser of the BSDI, thanked the Saipan Mayor's Office for accepting their bid to adopt the place. In a later interview, he said the BSDI is still in its early stages, but "by adopting this area, it officialized our intentions to really do something for the community."

See BANTALAN on Page 4

WE GOT MOM AND THE FAM COVERED

Make her day! Keep Mom happy and the whole family connected, and save with these exclusive Mother's Day deals.



3 Months FREE dFi+ Internet*
and Free Gift
when you Bundle & Save
While supplies last



\$20 Off**
the first 3 months
FREE Whole Home WiFi
device & basic installation



1 Month Free**
Plus FREE device with
12-month contract

*Offer valid till June 30, 2023, and to CNMI residential subscribers deemed serviceable. Basic Installation valued at \$99.95, additional installation fees may apply. Three (3) months free dFi+ discount applies to the first 3-months of service from the date of activation. Offer cannot be combined with other offers. Standard NOW terms & conditions apply. While supplies last. Additional conditions may apply.
**Offer available in the CNMI till June 30, 2023, to subscribers deemed serviceable from an existing DOCOMO PACIFIC plan without modification. Minimum 12-month dFi+ value agreement required. Basic installation valued at \$99.95, additional installation fees may apply. \$20 off monthly discount applies to the first 3-months of service from the date of dFi+ activation. One month free WiSP applies to the first month of service from the date of activation. A minimum 12-month agreement is required. May be subject to a credit check. While supplies last. Additional conditions may apply.

670-488-CARE | docomopacific.com

docomo pacific
Better Together

ARMATECH



Automatic
Sliding Gate
Operator Installer
and Repairer

Tel: (670) 234-8895 | Email: armatech.saipan@gmail.com
Mobile: (670) 287-5525 / (670) 783-8895

IMMEDIATE HIRING

1 (ONE) TRAVEL CLERK

HOURLY RATE: \$12.00 - \$14.85
WORK 4 - 6 HOURS,
FLEXIBLE FROM 8:30AM - 4:30PM
MONDAY TO FRIDAY

PLEASE CALL/TEXT @
(670) 287-3903/483-1618
CONDITONS MAY CHANGE

ATTENTION Government Employees & Retirees!

SAVE MONEY with the Island Smiles Discount Dental Plan. ENROLL TODAY!

- **Cheapest Price:** \$5.00 (Individual Plan), \$6.00 (Two-Party Plan) or \$7.00 (Family Plan) per bi-weekly allotment. Cheapest dental plan in the CNMI.
- Members receive at LEAST **20%-50% discounts** on all dental procedures. Enrollment Packet & Video explanation of the Plan @ www.paradisedentalspa.com
- **Plan Provider:** Paradise Dental Spa. State-of-the-art, full service General and Cosmetic dental clinic. Most experienced dentists in the CNMI. Really nice people and the coffee pot is always on! Great aircon and free WiFi.

Award-Winning Dentists
kind and gentle

**DR. NELSON KRUM
DR. SHELLY TRAN**



Paradise Dental



Hawaii Dental Service, Take Care, Calvo's, Cigna, Staywell,
and LHI Insurances also accepted. Medicaid patients welcome!
Best Aircon on the island, and the coffee pot is always on!

Call 234-4040

Middle Road, Gualo Rai, across
from Chong's Refrigeration

Stop by and pick up your enrollment packet or send an
email request to paradisedentalsaipan@gmail.com

www.paradisedentalspa.com [instagram.com/paradisedentalspa](https://www.instagram.com/paradisedentalspa) [facebook.com/paradisedentalspa](https://www.facebook.com/paradisedentalspa)

3 Tinian lawmakers attend Okinawa event

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORT

Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) and Rep. Patrick H. San Nicolas (R-Tinian) recently filed notice that they would be out of the CNMI on official business.

Saipan Tribune learned that Hofschneider, San Nicolas, and Sen. Francisco Q. Cruz (R-Tinian) attended a change of command ceremony for the Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 262 for a Tinian son, Lt. Col. A. R. Evangelista, in Okinawa, Japan.

Bill aims to boost CNMI's Medicaid funding to \$90M

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORT



Sablan

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) introduced Thursday a legislation that would effectively increase

the CNMI's Medicaid funding from \$66 million to \$90 million.

Sablan stated in his e-kilili newsletter over the weekend that H.R. 3260, or the Northern Mariana Islands Medicaid Equivalence Act, provides a Medicaid grant to the Marianas that matches that of American Samoa—a territory with virtually the same population and income levels.

H.R. 3260 seeks to amend Title XI of the Social Security Act. The legislation was referred to the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Sablan said the bill is a continuation of his efforts to correct the historical disparity in Medicaid funding that began when the CNMI had no voice in Congress. Sablan said the bill is also a response to the projected financial shortfall in Medicaid funding that Gov. Arnold I. Palacios reported to him last month.

Acting Commonwealth Medicaid Agency director Vicenta Borja had informed Palacios in a letter dated April 4, 2023, that she projects the agency to experience a financial shortfall estimated at \$4.8 million and it is just a matter of when this will occur.

Borja said the amount may change due to the interim monthly payments made to the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. using the Certified Public Expenditure methodology.

While Medicaid funding for fiscal year 2023 has already been allotted, Sablan said his new proposed legislation would help ensure that Medicaid enrollees in the Marianas would have reliable access to federally funded healthcare in future years.

Hofschneider informed Senate President Edith E. DeLeon Guerrero (D-Saipan) last May 4 that he would be out of the Commonwealth from May 6 and would be back yesterday,

May 14. The senator did not indicate in his notice where he would be going.

In response to *Saipan Tribune's* inquiry yesterday, Hofschneider confirmed that he, San Nicolas, and Cruz attended an event in Okinawa. Hofschneider said he will provide information via press release and photos soon.

San Nicolas informed then-act-



Cruz



Hofschneider



San Nicolas

ARTMAN CORPORATION

SERVICES will be:

- Sewer Pumping
- Snake Wiring
- Portable Toilet Rental
- Portable Hand Wash Station
- Handling Recyclable Wastes



PMB 122 Box 10000
MP 96950, Lower Base
artmancorporation@gmail.com
Please Call: 234-8079 | 287-8079

ing House of Representatives Speaker Joel C. Camacho (Ind-Saipan) that he would be out of the Commonwealth on official business from May 8 to 14, 2023. He also did not indicate in the notice

where he was going and for what event.

In response to *Saipan Tribune's* inquiry, San Nicolas said last week that the event is in Okinawa and that he is preparing photos and state-

ments for a press release that will be issued soon.

Cruz informed DeLeon Guerrero last April 28 that he would be out of the CNMI on official business from May 8 to 14, 2023.

In Saipan, we only have one shop Midea Electric in Chalan Kanoa

Midea ELECTRIC

MOTHER'S DAY

Sale

- Split Type AC up to 25% OFF
- Window AC 15% OFF
- Refrigerator & Freezer 10-30% Off
- Washer 10%-15% off
- Solar Light, Rice Cooker, Fan 10% off
- Smart TV, 32-75", 20% OFF
- 85", 98" TV available now
- Faucet, Tools 10-15% Off

Great discounts available,
Come visit us!

We accept vouchers from
DPW-Energy Division.
We accept Visa, Master, Discover,
Diners Club, JCB, UnionPay Card!
We accept installment plan or layaway

Please visit our shop or call
234-0680
for more details

How's Your Hearing?

Specializing in:

- Hearing Evaluations
- Custom fitted hearing aids
- Digital and Programmable Technology
- Custom Communication Devices

■ **Thursday, May 18th** **9:00am - 4:00pm**
at Marianas Medical Center in Garapan



**Ross
Hearing
Aids**

Existing patients only
No new patients

234-3925/7



Jennifer Ross, BC-HIS
Board Certified in Hearing
Instrument Sciences
Email: rosshearingaids@yahoo.com

Young artists' artwork showcased in exhibit at 360

By **CHRYSTAL MARINO**
chrystal_marino@saipantribune.com
CORRESPONDENT

Family, friends, and classmates of two young artists gathered last Friday evening at the 360 Restaurant of the Marianas Business Plaza in Susupe for the opening of the exhibit of Saipan International School sophomore Junseo “June” Kim and junior Claire Park.

Both Kim and Park were excited to have their art pieces shown in public, saying they were grateful for the opportunity.

Kim said he was excited and happy to be able to do the exhibition. “I love to share my artwork,” he said.

Park echoed similar sentiments. “It’s my first exhibition, so I’m kind of nervous. ...I’m very excited and I’m really glad. I got the opportunity,” she said.

Kim hopes to continue doing art

into the future; is dream is to do animation. “I want to go to either Pixar or Disney,” he said.

The exhibit was made possible through a partnership with SIS art instructor Amie McRoberts and 360 restaurant co-owners Steve Nutting and Andrew Colburn, soon after Kim won the 2023 CNMI Congressional Art Competition. His win means his artwork will be displayed for a year at the U.S. Capitol, together with other winners from other states and U.S. territories.

Kim said was so happy and proud of himself after being named the winner of the 2023 CNMI Congressional Art Competition, which he said took months of practice.

Kim has 15 pieces on display at the exhibit, while Park has four, and each had a theme depicting Saipan’s nature culture, legends, nature, etc.

McRoberts described the two



CHRYSTAL MARINO

Young artists Junseo “Jun” Kim and Claire Park pose together after unveiling some of their artwork last Friday evening at the 360 Restaurant in the Marianas Business Plaza in Susupe.



COURTESY VISIT

Gov. Arnold I. Palacios and honorary governor Ana Nakatsukasa received Friday a courtesy visit from the Japanese Association for Recovery & Repatriation of War Casualties during their third trip to the CNMI. The JARRWC is an organization designated by the Government of Japan tasked with conducting field recovery and repatriation of Japanese war remains. They recently conducted field recovery operations on Saipan and are about to continue their work on Tinian following their last visit back in February of this year. Nakatsukasa was designated as honorary CNMI governor on Friday as part of the celebration of May as Older Americans Month or Mes Man’amko.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

ZELENSKY

From Page 1

a year ago.

Zelenskyy held his hand over his heart and said it was a “great honor” to meet with the pope. Francis, using a cane for his knee problem, came to greet the Ukrainian president before ushering him into a papal studio near the Vatican’s audience hall.

In a tweet after the 40-minute audience, Zelenskyy expressed gratitude to Francis for “his personal attention to the tragedy of millions of Ukrainians.” He said he spoke with the pontiff “about the tens of thousands of deported (Ukrainian) children. We must make every effort to return them home.”

Last month, Ukraine’s prime minister, Denys Shmyhal, asked the pope to help get children returned from Russia to Ukraine. But the

Vatican’s statement Saturday made no mention of the request.

Instead, the Vatican said the two men spoke about Ukraine’s “humanitarian and political situation provoked by the ongoing war.”

“The pope assured his constant prayer, paid witness to by his many public appeals and by his continued invoking of the Lord for peace, since February of last year,” the Vatican said, a reference to the Russian invasion that began Feb. 24, 2022.

The meeting came as Russia’s defense ministry said Storm Shadow long-range cruise missiles delivered to Ukraine by the United Kingdom this week damaged unspecified civilian enterprises in Luhansk province in Ukraine’s far east. Luhansk authorities separately said another missile strike hit the regional capital, wounding an elderly woman.

Two Russian Mi-8 helicop-

ters and an Su-34 fighter-bomber crashed Saturday in the Bryansk region bordering Ukraine, state news agency Tass and a Telegram channel close to the Russian defense ministry reported; the newspaper Kommersant cited reports of two fighter planes crashing. The causes of the crashes were not immediately disclosed, but concern in Bryansk is growing about cross-border attacks from Ukraine.

BANTALAN

From Page 2

He clarified that the Bantalan area has been adopted by two other organizations—the Saipan Lions Club and another Filipino club—“So now, we can share and collaborate with each other and beautify and improve our areas of responsibility.”

BSDI is a 3-year-old nonprofit group with about 50 members.

artists as “extremely talented” who they want other people to see their artwork.

“And another benefit for them [is] for their college applications next year, for them to have something in their portfolio, to say that they’ve done exhibitions,” McRoberts said.

Nutting told *Saipan Tribune* that since all his children have attended SIS, he has become acquainted with McRoberts and is aware that the school has a great art program. When McRoberts approached him with her idea of doing an arts exhibit, he

readily agreed. Nutting, Colburn, and McRoberts said they were all excited about the endeavor.

“Just come out and support. We have a lot of talent right here on Saipan and sometimes we are always looking toward outer places but we have a lot right here. So it’s a good way to be able to show other people the talent we have,” said McRoberts.

Copies of the artwork will be up for open bid at 360 from May 12 until May 19 where final purchases will be made by the highest bidder. All proceeds will go to SIS’ art program.

OVER

From Page 1

tion, and even veterinary services.

Military leaders who will take part in CNMI Operation Wellness in July met with Gov. Arnold Palacios and Lt. Gov. David Apatang last week for a planning conference to finalize the logistics of Operation Wellness.

“We will be conducting...no-cost medical services to the communities of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. We are here for our final planning conference,” said Maj. Samantha Madsen, CNMI Wellness Mission project manager.

IRT CNMI Operation Wellness is a joint-service medical mission primarily composed of over 130 credentialed healthcare providers from the U.S. Army Reserve. It will be augmented by the Air National Guard, U.S. Navy, and the U.S. Air Force. Clinics will run from July 12 to July 20 on Saipan and July 12 to July 19 on Rota and Tinian. Services will be provided at no cost to the community. No insurance is necessary.

Madsen explained that the IRT program is funded through the Office of the Secretary of Defense and what it does is it matches community

needs with opportunities for the military to come in and do trainings to further fine-tune and hone their skills.

In the case of the CNMI, the Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs under the Office of the Governor requested specific medical services and through IRT, military personnel who have been trained in the medical field will come to the CNMI to provide those services.

According to Col. Hugh West, CNMI Wellness mission commander, the services they will be providing include dental, optometry, veterinarian services, medical services, and mental health services.

“Ultimately, what we do is we [choose] an array of our highly trained medical personnel to come here and do more fine-tuning to their skill sets when they get here. It’s a double win because our folks are able to train on everything that we do, while providing free services to the community, including dental, optometry, veterinarian services, medical services, and mental health services,” he said.

The Office of the Governor will have a webpage in the near future designed to answer the community’s questions, including service dates, times, and locations, and services that will and will not be provided.

OPD

From Page 1

able to secure a grant to take care of some tourist sites in Marpi.

“Those plans are forthcoming. The idea is [OPD] is going to add MVA as a co-recipient of the grant so that we could help administer the grant and from there, we’re going to help improve Bird Island Lookout, Suicide Cliff, and Last Command Post,” he said.

In addition, Concepcion said he learned from Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang that the Office of Grants Management is working on grant funding for Banzai Cliff as well.

“I was speaking with Lt. Gov. Apatang who mentioned that the Office of Grants Management is working on a grant to secure funding for equipment at Banzai Cliff. Those are coming along,” he said.

“The grant process is not easy but once we get the ball rolling, things should work themselves out. Those are forthcoming. We are working very hard,” he said.

Concepcion stated in a previous article on *Saipan Tribune* that destination enhancement is one of his top priorities at MVA.

“Destination enhancement is one of my key priorities. MVA and our partners, other government agencies,

and partners in the private sector really need to focus on improving our islands like the tourist sites, facilities that need upgrading, and [coming up with] new and improved attractions. That’s key. These are all key factors in revitalizing our tourism industry,” he said.

When asked about the ongoing jurisdiction debacle regarding who is in charge of renovating and enhancing the island’s tourist sites, Concepcion said he and his team will be working closely with all other agencies and departments who may have jurisdiction over these sites, and finally address the much-needed improvements.

“The question of jurisdiction has historically always been an issue. We know that the Constitution grants all rights to the Department of Public Lands. However, there have been certain sites that have been designated to other departments to manage, but none of them have ever been designated to the MVA to manage. But historically, MVA has spent a lot of its funding on improving tourist sites, paying for security, and maintenance. So, we’re going to have to work closely without other departments and agencies to settle this jurisdiction issue and maybe it could establish joint jurisdiction. But we will have to see,” he said.



GIFT BASKETS OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

In anticipation of Mother's Day and the spirit of bringing joy and awareness of the positive impact mothers have in our lives, the CNMI Office of the Governor, first lady Wella S. Palacios, and the CNMI Office of Women's Affairs recently presented gift baskets to Karidat Social Services, Department of Corrections, and the Substance Abuse, Addiction, and Rehabilitation HOPE Recovery Center, for distribution to mothers who avail of the services of those respective departments and organizations. From left to right: Karidat Social Services staff, Karidat Social Services executive director Lauri Ogumoro, special assistant for Women's Affairs Barbara T. Sablan, Karidat Social Services staff, special assistant for Administration Oscar M. Babauta, Department of Corrections Commissioner Anthony C. Torres, and Substance Abuse, Addiction, and Rehabilitation special assistant Diego M. Sablan.

3 from NMI named to BJU's Dean's List

GREENVILLE, SC— Three students from the CNMI are among approximately 800 Bob Jones University students that have been named to the Dean's List for the spring 2023 semester.

Junyu Chen, a freshman Engineering major; Hongen Hu, a freshman Theatre major; and Yurong Zhang, a freshman Studio Art major, who are all from Saipan; were among approximately 800 Bob Jones University students that have been named to the spring 2023 Dean's List.

The Dean's List recognizes students who earn a 3.00-3.74 grade point average during the semester.

Located in Greenville, South Carolina, Bob Jones University provides an outstanding regionally accredited Christian liberal arts education. BJU offers over 100 undergraduate and graduate programs in religion, education, fine arts and communication, arts and science, health professions, and business, and JU has over 3,000 students from nearly every state and more than 40 countries. *(PR)*



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
MAIN OFFICE: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2ND FLOOR ARRIVAL BLDG.
PO BOX 501055-Saipan-MP-96950
PHONE: (1-670) 237-6500 / 1 • FAX: (1-670) 234-5962
WEBSITE: WWW.CNMIPTS.COM



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

RFP NO: CPA-RFP-011-23
SUBMISSION DATE: JUNE 07, 2023 TIME: 4:00 P.M.
SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT INTERIOR PLANTS RENTAL, SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE

THE PROPOSAL PACKAGE MAY BE PICKED UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA), 2ND FLOOR, ARRIVAL BUILDING, SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, SAIPAN, MP 96950, DURING WORKING WORKS BEGINNING MAY 08, 2023.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT MUST BE IN WRITING AND ADDRESS TO THE DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY EITHER BY FACSIMILE AT 234-5962 OR EMAIL: edmendiola@cnmiports.com NO LATER THAN 4:00 P.M., MAY 29, 2023.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION §40-50-1020 AND 1025 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CPA RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A PROPOSAL IF IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CPA. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CPA.

EDWARD B. MENDIOLA
Deputy Executive Director

Date: _____





WE ARE GIVING UP TO
2 LUCKY WINNERS MONTHLY
60,000 OR \$1,000
UNITED MILEAGEPLUS MILES IN SHELL FUEL

Earn entries to monthly giveaways with select Prepaid transactions.



 ite.net  itecnmi  itecnmi

Terms and conditions apply. Entry period from 5/1/23 - 12/31/23. Long distance cards not eligible. All sales final. Prizes will be awarded via PACIFICPOINTS. Winners will be randomly selected on the 4th day and awarded by the last day of the following month. Winners will be contacted by phone at the selected Prepaid number. No purchase necessary. To enter, drop a Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope with contact information at the IT&E Oleai Store, Saipan. Entries to monthly giveaways must be received by IT&E before the last day of the month. Available at all IT&E locations and participating stores. Visit ite.net or stores for details.





Tel.: (670) 234-3751 • Website: www.dpl.gov.mp • Email: dpl@dpl.gov.mp

In accordance with Section 106 (b) of Public Law 15-2, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to lease certain public land in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

- i. The proposed lease of public land is described as Lot 244 E 01, containing an area of approximately 2,000 square meters, situated in Sadog Tasi, Saipan. A map showing the location of the parcel is available at the Department of Public Lands for inspection.
- ii. The prospective Lessee is 153 Corporation. The list of officers for 153 Corporation: Young Ok Park, as President/ Treasurer/ Secretary and Incha Yuni Park, as Vice President.
- iii. The proposed lease is compliant with DPL regulations and was negotiated by the officers and directors of 153 Corporation, mainly Young Ok Park.
- iv. The lessee shall use the premises solely for the purpose of a restaurant establishment.

The term of the proposed lease agreement is 25 years.

The proposed annual rental during the term of the lease agreement is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value of the property plus the applicable percentage of Business Gross Receipts in DPL's regulation.

- v. A copy of the proposed lease agreement may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; 1st floor of the De'Ana Commercial Building, Songsong Village, Rota; or the 1st floor of the PM Building, Tinian. A copy will also be available online at www.dpl.gov.mp
- vi. The Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public land in Sadog Tasi, Saipan.
- vii. The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before May 29, 2023, at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

Sigun gi Seksiona 106 (b) gi Lain Publiku 15-2, i Dipåtamentun Tanu' Publiku mannáná i nutisia guini put i intension-fiha para u ma'atklá metton na tanu' publiku giya Saipan, Commonwealth gi Sangkattan na Islas Mariánas. Maseha háyi na pattidá intrisao gi halum hinirát publiki sífa muna'hálum upiön, infomtasion, pat testimoniuin kinontra gi tinahguin prinopini siha para i atklon nu i tanu' publiku. Komu mapribeni más mo' na ginen i Lain Publiku 15-2, i tinattiviyo petanesi na infomtasion manisissita para u mapublika.

- i. I maproponi na atkilon tanu' publiku madiskribi komu Lot 244 E 01 ni kunsissiti kâsi 2,000 square meters, ni gaigi gi hâlum Sadog Tâsi, iya Saipan. I mâpa ina'a'annuk i pâttin i lugât managua ha gi ufisinan Dipattamentun Tanu' Publiku yan gi website i www.dpl.gov.mp para inspeksion.
- ii. I prospective lessee i 153 Corporation. I listan nu ufisiât siha para i 153 Corporation: Young Ok Park, komu Presidenti/Tresâriu/Sekritâriu yan si Incha Yunl Park, komu Sigundu Presidenti.
- iii. I maproponi na atkilon ha tattitiyi i regulasion DPL siha yan ginen manegosiu ginen i ufisiât yan direktot nu i 153 Corporation, mayotmenti si Young Ok Park.

I tema nu i maproponi na kuntråtán atkilon sa' bentisingku (25) åñus na tiempu.

I maproponi na atkilon gi kada' sakkan gi durántin i teman kuntrâta mapega gi put sientus i bâlin "appraised fair market" i propiedât van i aplikâpbli na put sientus nu Business Gross Receipts gi halum regulasion i DPL.

- | | |
|------|---|
| v. | I kopian i maproponi na kuntrâtan atkilon siña machuli' gi ufisinan i Dipâtamentun Tanu' Publiku, ni gaigi gi sigundu (2nd) na bibiendan i Joeten Dandan Commercial Building giya Dandan, Saipan, primet (1st) na bibiendan i De'Ana Commercial Building, giya Songo Village, Luta; pat i primet (1st) na bibiendan nu i PM Building, giya Tini'an. I kopia debi lokku' na u managuaha online gi www.dpl.gov.mp |
| vi. | I Dipâtamentun Tanu' Publiku tâya marisibi ni hâfa na tinahguin inofresi siha ni para u ma'atkila i suhetu na tanu' publiku gi Sadog Tâsi, Saipan. |
| vii. | I Sekritâriun Dipâtamentun Tanu' Publiku debi na u aksepta tinigi' upiôn, infotmasion, testimonium kinontra pat tinahguin prinoponi siha ginin i manintirisâo na pattida siha gi pat ântis di Mayu 29, 2023 gi ufisinan Dipâtamentun Tanu' Publiku siha ni gaigi giya Sa'ipan, Luta pat Tini'an. |

Sángi Tálí 106 (b) reel Alléghú Toulap 15-2, Bwulasiyol Ammwelí Faluweer Toulap re isiisiwow arongorong me mángemánil rebwe atkkaíay faluweer toulap iye e fiat lól Seipél, Commonwealth Téel Fálúw kka Éráng lól Marianas. Schóh kka re mwuschel rebwe isiisilong ischí kkapas, “data”, “views” ngáre ángiingi reel liwielí ppwomwól faluweer toulap. Eyoor maas sángi Alléghú Toulap 15-2, arongorong ikka e amwimíririwitiw éwe akatéeéwow.

- i. Ppwoommwol attkilóónl fauweer toulap iye e bwaáló bwe Lot 244 E 01, e lo bwe 2,000 reel square meters, iye e lo Sadog Tasi, Seipél. Eyoor pappidil falúw yeel me Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Fawuweer Toulap ngàre u mwuschel amwuri.
- ii. Ppwoommwol schóól attkilóón nge 153 Corporation. List-al officer ngáli 153 Corporation: Young Ok Park, bwe Presidente/Treasurer/Sekkretóório me Incha Yunl Park, bwe Vice President.
- iii. Ppwoommwol attkilóón nge e angúúngú fengál me mwóghutughutú DPL me e abwungubwung sángi officers me director-il 153 Corporation, espesialmente Young Ok Park.
- iv. Schóól attkilóón ebwe yááyáá falúw ngáli ghachúl me mwóghutughutúl ayooral “restaurant”.

Ppwommwol abwungubwungúl atkkilóón nge ngáli ruweigh me limoow (25) ráágh.

Pwomwmo atkkillóónol atol abwungubwungul atkkillóón nge e lo reel “percentage of the appraised fair market value” reel bwughos fengál me “application percentage of Business Gross Receipts” llól aar mwóghutughutul DPL.

- v. Eyoor pappidil abwungubwungul atkikóón yeel me Bwulasiyol Ammweliil Faluweer Toulap, iye e lo 2nd floor me Joeten Dandan Commercial Building me Dandan, Seipé; 1st floor me De'Ana Commercial Building, Apiómwoł Songsong, Luuta; ngáre 1st floor me PM Building, Tchiliyól. Ebwal yoor pappidil mille online me www.dpl.gov.mp
- vi. Bwulasiyol Ammweliil Faluweer Toulap rese bweibwogh ppwommw ngáli atkikóónol faluweer toulap iye e lo Sadog Tasi, Seipé.
- vii. Sekkretóoriyol Bwulasiyol Ammweliil Faluweer Toulap emmweli rebwe bweibwogh ischil kkapas, views, angingi ngáre ppwommw iye re siweli sángi schoó kka re mwuschel wóól ngáre mmwaili Moozo 29, 2023, me Bwulasiyol Ammweliil Faluweer Toulap ikka e lo wóól Seipé, Luuta ngáre Tchiliyól.



Following up on the announcements of April 21, April 27, May 1, and May 8, 2023, the Office of Foreign Labor Certification is postponing the date for filers to begin submitting the new, revised applications for permanent employment certification and CW-1 applications for temporary employment certification

in the Foreign Labor Application Gateway from May 16, 2023, to June 1, 2023. Applicants should continue to use the current PERM and CW-1 forms until such time.

As a result of the transition to the revised version of the form and the transition to FLAG, OFLC will no longer accept any new

applications submitted via the legacy PERM Online System after May 31, 2023, at 6:59pm Eastern Standard Time. OFLC will no longer accept the previous version of Form ETA-9089 or Forms ETA-9141C/9142C, and their related forms, after May 31, 2023, either electronically or submitted by mail. **(PR)**

The Pacific Basin University Center for Excellence is seeking individuals from American Samoa and the CNMI who are interested in participating in their trainee program focused on working with people with disabilities. Applications for the 2023 program are now being accepted.

The trainee program serves to help individuals develop the skills and knowledge to work with people with disabilities, with the focus being on individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

Running from June to December 2023, the program offers online coursework

in disability studies from the University of Hawaii at Manoa, monthly virtual meetings and seminars, workshops in American Sign Language, service learning, emergency and disaster management, and assisting with research. Most of the program will be held online and not in person.

Participants in the program will have the opportunity to enhance their understanding of disability studies. They can take an introductory disability and diversity course offered by the Center on Disability Studies at UH Manoa, engage in monthly seminars to connect with other professionals, access local and national resources on disability-related issues, network with trainees

from across the country, attend regional, national, or international conferences, and receive a certificate as a University for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities trainee. Additionally, a stipend of \$2,000 will be provided.

In order to be eligible for this program, students or professionals must be from American Samoa or the CNMI, must have completed at least one year of community college, and must have at least a B or higher in English 100.

Applications are due on May 19, 2023, and can be accessed at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/pbuce-trainee2023>. For any inquiries, please contact Yoko Kitami at kitami@hawaii.edu. (*NMC*)



SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF POWER DISTRIBUTION ANNUAL MATERIALS FOR CUC TINIAN, CNMI

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified vendors for the Supply and Delivery of Power Distribution Annual Materials for CUC Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

CUC may award a contract to more than one firm for the materials, based on bids for "Commodity Groups".

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-IFB-23-015, Supply & Delivery of Power Distribution Annual Materials for CUC Tinian, CNMI” to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 a.m. (ChST) on June 12, 2023**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. An electronic copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent via email to CUC Procurement & Supply Division via email address, marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

A Bid Guarantee of not less than fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. All responses to this Invitation for Bids should take into account any and all taxes, including excise tax, which will become the obligation of the bidder, awarded a contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered bidders and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on May 22, 2023** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org, with a copy to Evelyn Manglona, CUC Tinian Resident Manager, via email evelyn.manglona@cucgov.org, Louella Mundo, CUC Warehouse Technician via email louella.mundo@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC Senior Administrative Technician at marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in said bid proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

BETTINA G. TERLAJE
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLON
Purchasing Administrator



Thank You

SI YU'US MA'ASE & GHILISOW REEMI!

The Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence extends our deepest appreciation to all those who are courageous, those who stand with us, and those who continue to speak out against sexual violence during Sexual Assault Awareness Month and beyond. We commend your bravery and we will continue to come together on behalf of victims and survivors to promote healing and justice to create a safer CNMI. Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to the 2023 SAAM Committee members, partners, and volunteers for their commitment, vision, enthusiasm, and creativity that helped create an empowering and successful campaign.

2023 SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

Support All Survivors. End Victim Blaming!

Lt. Governor David M. Apatang
Rosemond Santos-Sword
Fred Sato
Kimberlyn King-Hinds
Saipan Mayor Ramon "RB" Camacho
Senate President Edith Deleon Guerrero
Speaker Edmund Villagomez
Rep. Angelo Camacho
Rep. Blas Jonathan "BJ" Attao
Rep. Marissa Flores
Rep. Ralph Yumul
Rep. Thomas John "TJ" Manglona
Abygnale's
Adeline Tereyama
Alexander Guevarra
Antonette Labausa
Bernice Shane Sabino
Bobbie Jean Sasamoto
Bridge Capital, LLC
Bridget Lizama
Caitlin Kalaw
Calvani Deleon Guerrero
Candace Celis
Carmen Borja
Cassandra Biscocho
Celina Romolor-Route
Chester Hinds
Choll A Beluu Cultural Dancers
Christine Kim
CNMI PSS - Commissioner of Education
Office
CNMI PSS - Head Start/Early Head Start
CNMI Women's Association
Cornerstone Christian Church
CPA - Aircraft Rescue & Firefighting
Academy
Daryl Ubarra
Dean Tenorio
Diocese of Chalan Kanoa
Dixie Camacho
DLNR - Parks & Recreation
Dr. Rita H. Inos Jr. Sr. High School
Edmond Borja
Ella Stephanson
Estafania Reyes
Eulalia V. Arriola
Evelyn Pangelinan
Father Jesse T. Reyes
Flores Sinser Dancers
Francine Nakazato
Frannie Demapan
Gary Sword


Genelin Camacho
Gloriana Teuira
Gordon Marciano
Grace Choi
Grace Christian Assembly - Kagman
Grace Christian Assembly - Navy Hill
Grace Christian Assembly - South
Guadalupe Ingham
Gwen Iguel
Hanom Linda'a Christian Assembly
Island Grindz
Jaiden Santos
Jenny Sablan
Jimmie B. Flamar
Jocelyn Castro
Jody Coloma - Clover Designs
Joeten Kiyu Public Library
Joey Hong
Jonas Okawa
Julia Espino
Julian Camacho
Juliana Kai Ortiz
Kagman Community
Kagman High School
Kagman High School - JROTC Ayuyu
Battalion
Kennedy DLG. Benjamin
Keziah Reyes
Kiki's Boutique
Kimiko Tenorio
KKMP Radio Station
Kristy Diaz
Lani Diaz
Leah Tarkong-Jun
Let's Move Marianas Zumba Group
Liam Mendoza
Malina Rose B. Tenorio
Malyssa Q. Castro
Mariana B. Tenorio
Marianas High School Interact Club
Marianas High School - JROTC Dolphin
Battalion
Marianas High School - Micronesian
Cultural Club
Marianas High School - One Day at a
Time Club
Mary Jane Domingo
Melycher Sablan
Mike C. Tenorio
Mike Cruz
Minerva Wabul
Monique Boyer Sablan

Nadia Moses
Noel Roque
Northern Marianas College - School of
Education
Pastor Fred Fatialofa
Patricia Borja
Pena House Boutique & Salon
Petlas Marianas Dancers
Philip Santos
Rabeya Akter
Raynalynn Sablan
Richard Balesares
Rizza Ann Marie Veleña
Roan DLC Palma
Robert Mojica
Rolly Roppul
Rotaract Club of Saipan
Rufina Sablan
Ryan A. Quitano
Saipan Music & Dance Studio
Saipan Southern High School Interact
Club
San Vicente Parish
Santino Malonzo
Savory Bistro Cafe
Shanah Alvarez
Shannon Dela Cruz
Sheyvonne Aldan
Sunny Ma
Susan Cabrera
Tahj Salas
Tan Siu Lin Foundation
Tanya Salas - Tahine's Creation's
Timothy Deleon Guerrero
Upper Room International Ministry
Valerie Naputi
William Fife
Xuan Shen (Rebecca)

ROTA
Rota Mayor Aubry M. Hocog & Staff
Team Alibiu
Rota Mayor's Office - Rota Public
Information Office - Inventory Office &
Women's Affairs
Senator Donald Manglona
Rota DCCA RD Crispin Ogo & Staff
AGA Program
American Red Cross
Bake Me Happy
Center for Living Independently
CHCC-CGC - System of Care

Commonwealth Development
Authority
Community Members
DCCA - Acting RD Jonavan Lizama
DCCA - Arts Council
DCCA - Child Care
DCCA - Division of Youth Services
DCCA - Sports & Recreation
Department of Commerce
Department of Fire & Emergency
Medical Services
Department of Public Safety
Dr. Rita H. Inos Jr. Sr. High School
Hagu La'mun
Jessica Maratita
Kingkabob
Mack James
Many & More
Marianas Health
Northern Marianas Protection &
Advocacy Systems, Inc.
PSS Mental Health
Rota High School AmeriCorps
Rota Public Library
Sinapalo Elementary School
Voices of the CNMI

2023 SAAM COMMITTEE PARTNERS
CHCC-Community Guidance Center -
Healthy Transitions
CHCC-Community Guidance Center -
Suicide Prevention Program
CHCC-Community Guidance Center -
Systems of Care
CNMI PSS-SSS - Project Haligi Aware
DCCA - Commonwealth Council for
Arts & Culture
DCCA - Division of Youth Services
Department of Fire & Emergency
Medical Services
Department of Public Safety
Joeten Kiyu Public Library
Karidat Social Services & Victim Hotline
Micronesian Legal Services Corporation
NMI Judiciary - Office of Adult Probation
Northern Marianas College
Northern Marianas Protection and
Advocacy Systems, Inc.
Office of the Attorney General -
Criminal Division
Office of Youth Affairs



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

PUBLIC NOTICE

This Notice is paid by the NMHC with HUD funds.

**NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND
NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST RELEASE OF FUNDS**
05/03/2023

Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation
Saipan MP, 96950
Telephone(s): (670)234-9447/6866

These notices shall satisfy the above-cited two separate but related procedural notification requirements.

REQUEST FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS

On or after May 19, 2023, the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands will submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington D.C., for the release of Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act, 2019 P.L. 116-20, enacted on January 27, 2020, announced via Federal Register Notice, to undertake the following activity and purposes in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

Project/Activity Type	Purpose	Location	Total Project Cost
JYP-M6 Rehab Project <ul style="list-style-type: none">The "JYP-M6 Rehab Project" proposes to rehabilitate sixteen (16) units: eleven (11) studio types, two (2) units with one-bedroom, and three (3) units with three-bedrooms.	Affordable Rental Housing	Garapan, Saipan	Approximately \$1,600,000.00 of CDBG-DR funding, no other funds to be used.

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands has determined that the above-listed project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) website at www.nmhc.gov.net or NMHC Community Development Block Grant - Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) website at www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com; or on file at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan or NMHC CDBG-DR Office in Beach Road, Chalan Laulau, Saipan, examined during regular work hours, Monday through Friday except CNMI Holidays, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to Northern Marianas Housing Corporation. You may submit comments to the following options: via mail to P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950; direct delivery to the central office in Garapan, Saipan or drop-box located in front of the building; and via email at officemanager@nmhc.gov.net. All comments received by May 18, 2023, 4:30 p.m. will be considered by the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands prior to authorizing the submission of a request for release of funds. Comments should specify which Notice they are addressing.

ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION

The Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands certifies to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Washington D.C. that the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Governor Arnold I. Palacios consent to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal Courts if an action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process, and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Washington D.C. approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and related laws and authorities, and allows the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands to use Program Funds.

OBJECTIONS TO RELEASE OF FUNDS

The U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Washington D.C will accept objections to its release of fund and the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands; (b) the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD); or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to Ms. Tennille Smith Parker, DRSI Division Director, HUD, via email at Tennille.S.Parker@hud.gov or via telephone (202)402-4649. Potential objectors should contact e U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to verify the actual last day of the objection period.

/s/
Arnold I. Palacios
Governor of the CNMI

Angello, 3 others appointed to boards

Gov. Arnold I. Palacios appointed Friday former Northern Marianas College academic administrator Dr. John "Jack" Angello to serve as a member of the Public Utilities Commission representing Saipan and the Northern Islands, and nominated three others to different boards.

Palacios also appointed Valerie M. Atalig to serve as a member of the board of directors of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., Elvira Manglona Mesngon to serve as a member of the Civil Service Commission, and Daniel Taitano to serve on the Commonwealth Economic Development Authority board of directors.

With respect to Angello, Palacios informed Senate president Edith E. DeLeon Guerrero (D-Saipan) and House of Representatives Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez (Ind-Saipan) that if confirmed by both the Senate and House, Angello will serve the remainder of a four-year term that will expire on April 2, 2024.

Palacios said Angello is highly qualified to fulfill the vital responsibilities of PUC. The governor said he and Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang are confident that Angello will devote his time and efforts to represent the interests of the Commonwealth.

Regarding Atalig's appointment to the CUC board, Palacios told DeLeon Guerrero that if confirmed by the Senate, Atalig, who will represent Rota, will serve a four-year term on the CUC board.

He said he and Apatang are confident that Atalig is qualified and will be an asset on the CUC board.

As for Mesngon's appointment to CSC, Palacios told DeLeon Guerrero that because the terms of CSC board members are staggered, if confirmed, the appointee, who will represent Rota, will serve the remainder of a six-year term that will expire on Jan. 9, 2029.

The governor said he and Apatang are confident that Mesngon will contribute productively to the work of the CSC, and that she would devote her time and efforts necessary to carry out the mandates of the commission.

About the appointment of Taitano to CEDA, Palacios said that, if confirmed by the Senate, the appointee, who will represent Rota, will serve the remainder of a four-year term that will expire on Sept. 25, 2024.

He said he and Apatang are confident that Taitano is qualified and will be an asset on the CEDA board.

Palacios said they are confident in Taitano's leadership to ensure efficient continuity of the functions and mandates of the CEDA as they work toward achieving the administration's goals and objectives. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

EARTHQUAKE BRIEFS

4.8-magnitude quake in Marianas region

At 12:19pm on May 13, 2023, a report of a 4.8-magnitude earthquake occurred in the Mariana Islands region. Currently, there are no reports of injuries or damages and no Tsunami warnings or advisories were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. *(PR)*

5.4-magnitude quake in Guam region

At 6:02pm on May 12 2023, a report of a 5.4-magnitude earthquake occurred at 12.408°N 144.193°E in the Guam region. Currently, there are no tsunami warnings or advisories that were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. *(PR)*

5.1-magnitude quake near Guam

At 1:01am on May 13 2023, a report of a 5.1-magnitude earthquake occurred at 12.418°N 144.144°E of Merizo Village, Guam. Currently, there are no tsunami warnings or advisories that were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. *(PR)*



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY(CPA)
CNMI GOVERNMENT
Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 • Phone: (670) 237-6500/01 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: <https://cnmiports.com>



**NOTICE OF OPEN PUBLIC AUCTIONS -
SURPLUS EQUIPMENT & MATERIALS**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is inviting all individuals, firms, and recycling centers to open public auctions of CPA's surplus equipment and materials. The list of surplus equipment and materials is available beginning April 14, 2023, for pick-up at the CPA Office of the Executive Director, which is located at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Building, 2nd floor, or via email upon request.

Item Inspection: All items will be available for inspection beginning April 17, 2023, to May 12, 2023, from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, business days only. Items located on Saipan may be inspected by contacting Mr. Santiago Camacho at the telephone number (670) 237-6500 Ext. 127.

Auction Locations, Dates, and Times: The auctions will take place at the following locations, dates, and times:

Saipan: CPA Hazmat Bunker, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport on May 17, 2023, beginning at 10:00 AM.

Terms and Conditions: All bidders submitting the highest itemized bid are required to pay a 20% down payment on acceptance of a bid. The balance shall be payable at CPA's Accounting Office located on the 2nd Floor of the Departure Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, within five (5) business days from the date of the Public Auction. Failure to pay will result in the forfeiture of the down payment. Payment must be made in cash, cashier's check, credit card, or money order made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All items are sold "AS IS" and "WHERE IS" and without warranty, guarantee, or representation of any kind, expressed or implied, as to the merchantability or fitness for any purpose of the property offered for sale. Items offered for sale are used and may contain defects not immediately detectable.

All sold properties must be removed from CPA property within five (5) calendar days from the date of payment, at the owner's expense. CPA will not be responsible for the said property after said specified time. The Buyer will make all arrangements and perform all work necessary, including packing, loading, and transportation of the property. No assistance will be provided. Upon removal of the property, all sales are final.

Any claim for a misdescription of the purchased item must be made prior to the removal of the property. If CPA confirms that the property does not conform to the description, CPA will keep the property and refund any money paid. The liability of the CPA shall not exceed the actual purchase price of the property.

CPA reserves the right to reject any and all bids submitted for any reason set forth in this Public Auction Notice or as set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations, including bid rejection or cancellation prior to and at the Public Auction.

CPA assumes no liability for any costs incurred by bidders in their preparation of the bids. Inquiries may be directed to the CPA Procurement Officer, Alex Tudela, via email at atudela@cnmiports.com.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director



Matson announced the relaunch of its *Adahi I Tano'* program, the company's community environmental program established in 2012 to engage community groups in beautifying and preserving the natural environment. The first cleanup of 2023 was completed by the Guam Women's Masters Softball Club on May 6, 2023, in Hagåtña.

MATSON

Matson relaunches program sponsoring public cleanups

» Nonprofit organizations can now sign up online at matson.com

HAGÁTÑA, Guam—Matson has relaunched its *Adahi I Tano'* program, which engages local nonprofit organizations to undertake cleanup projects that benefit the environment while raising money to support their programs benefitting the community.

Now in its 11th year, *Adahi I Tano'*, which means "Take care of the Land" in Chamorro, has cleaned 187 sites throughout Guam since the program started.

Matson's *Adahi I Tano'* program contributes \$500 to organizations that sign up and complete community projects and also provides all the supplies that groups need to conduct a cleanup project—trash bags, gloves, safety vests, and a 20-foot cargo container for collecting and transporting the garbage and recyclables away to proper disposal facilities.

Matson is now accepting applications from nonprofit groups with 12 or more volunteers who are interested in conducting cleanups through the end of this year. The first cleanup of 2023 was completed on May 6 by the Guam Women's Masters Softball Club. The club's 22 volunteers cleaned along Marine Corps Drive and the Hagåtña shoreline from Hagåtña Marina to Adelup Park. "*Adahi I Tano'* is one of our favorite programs because it allows us to uphold two of Matson's long-held traditions at the same time: helping preserve and protect our natural environment while also supporting local nonprofit organizations already doing good work in our community. We support their fundraising efforts, and they help keep Guam beautiful," said

Patrick Bulaon, vice president and general manager, Guam and Micronesia.

To date, Matson has invested more than \$165,000 in the *Adahi I Tano'* program and has worked with about 100 nonprofit organizations on projects that have cleaned up sites throughout the island. So far this year, the program has 24 projects planned for 2023.

Nonprofits can now apply online

Matson invites nonprofit organizations with groups of 12 or more to apply today to be a part of the 2023 program. The company launched a new online application process on

its community page at [Matson.com](https://matson.com). Interested groups can also learn more by calling (671) 475-5975/5961 or by emailing adahiitano@matson.com.

Follow *Adahi I Tano'* on Facebook (@matsonguamtakecareofland) and Instagram (@matsonait) to see photos from the cleanups and receive news and updates.

About *Adahi I Tano'*

The *Adahi I Tano'* was established in 2012 in Guam to promote "green" initiatives that support the company's core value of being good stewards of the land and sea, while benefiting the environment and the island's nonprofit organizations. Matson contributes \$500 to each nonprofit that completes a cleanup at a location chosen to support special community events, improve the environment for the public at large, and create safer areas for children to play. (PR)



COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION



INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-23-021

SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF LED STREET LIGHT LUMINAIRES AND MATERIALS FOR THE STREETLIGHT EFFICIENCY PROJECT, SAIPAN.

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the supply and delivery of Light Emitting Diode (LED) streetlight luminaires and materials to promote energy and cost saving measures on the power distribution system in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded from the United States Department of the Interior (USDIOIA).

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-23-021, Supply and Delivery of LED Streetlight Luminaires and Materials for the Streetlight Efficiency Project, Saipan" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on June 1, 2023 at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before submission deadline. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of not less than fifteen (15%) of the total bid price shall accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or supply under the contract. The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for goods. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on May 12, 2023 to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Lee T. Lieto, CUC Power Division Manager via email lee.lieto@cucgov.org; Jonathan Camacho, CUC Power Division Junior Engineer via email jonathan.camacho@cucgov.org; and Marcela Tenorio, Administrative Technician Senior via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any non-material imperfection in the bid proposal if in its sole opinion to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

Bettina G. Terlaje
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONS LICENSING BOARD
P.O. Box 502078, Bldg., 1242 Pohnpei Court
Capitol Hill, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel No: (670) 664-4809 Fax: (670) 664-4814
Email: info@cnmilicensing.gov.mp • Website: www.cnmilicensing.gov.mp



Pursuant to P.L. 8-41, Section 11, Governor Arnold I. Palacios and Lt. Governor David M. Apatang, through the Health Care Professions Licensing Board (HCPLB) are hereby giving notice that it will hold its regular monthly board meeting on **Thursday, May 18, 2023, at 8 a.m.** on Saipan. The meeting will be held at the Board of Professional Licensing Conference Room, BPL Building on Capitol Hill.

AGENDA

- I. Meeting Call to Order
- II. Determination of Quorum
- III. Review and Adoption of Agenda
- IV. Review and Adoption of Minutes (04/20/2023)
- V. Public Comments
- VI. Chairperson's Report
- VII. Director's Report
 - Proposed Amendments to the Licensing Regulations for Clinical Psychology Associates, Dentists, Dental Therapists, Dental Hygienists and Dental Assistants, and for Telehealth and Telemedicine (Updates)
- VIII. Investigator's Report
- IX. Communications from the Governor's Office & Legislature
 - A. Governor's Office
 - B. Legislature
- X. Old Business
- XI. New Business
 - CNMI HPSA Primary Care Provider Survey
 - Letter to Medicaid Regarding the Non-Licensing of Speech Pathologists
- XII. Pending Applications for Board's Review
 - A. New Application
 - B. Renewal Application
- XIII. Miscellaneous Business
- XIV. Executive Session: The Board may vote to meet in executive session to consult with Counsel on pending or anticipated legal matters.
- XV. Announcements
 - A. Next Meeting Date
 - B. Adjournment of Meeting

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXXIII, Issue No. 95Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950**Jayvee L. Vallejera** EDITOR
editor@saipantribune.com**Mark Rabago** ASSOCIATE EDITOR
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

Getting the goods on Santos: The feds indict the fraudster congressman and hopefully this will help push him out of office

Con(gress)man George Santos spent much of one day last week in a federal building, but it wasn't the Capitol where he casts votes and likes to make floor speeches. Instead Santos was out in the federal courthouse in Central Islip on Long Island being arraigned on 13 criminal counts by Brooklyn U.S. Attorney Breon Peace and Corey Amundson, chief of the public integrity section in Main Justice in D.C.

Santos pleaded not guilty and said that he would not resign and he would continue his reelection bid next year. However, since everything he says is a lie, maybe he thinks he really is guilty and may quit at any moment.

So now the fake grad (of high school and college and business school), fake banker, fake Jew, fake dog rescuer, fake 9/11 family member, is, in fact, a real inditree. Hopefully Peace and Amundson have a solid case, because this is going to be the only way to get this mendacious miscreant out of the Nassau/Queens House seat he lied his way into.

We knew once his fables and fibs started unraveling that this shameless man would never resign voluntarily and that he would only relinquish his office if the feds offered him a deal to hit the road in exchange for reducing the charges against him. And at least now we have the charges, from stealing COVID unemployment benefits to swindling campaign contributions and putting the money in his pocket to lying on congressional disclosure forms.

It's a mistake or he can explain it all or it's a witch hunt. For our part, we're not sure we quite understand the disclosure forms charges. Supposedly Santos misreported his modest income sources during his 2020 campaign, but still the total dollar number was about right. In the 2022 campaign, he claimed six- and seven-figure amounts for income and assets, which the feds say he didn't have. Inflating wealth on a form is a lot weaker than stealing. But still, the lawmen should use whatever ammo they have to nail this guy.

©2023 New York Daily News



How Donald Trump's abhorrent character made E. Jean Carroll's case

A federal jury found Donald Trump liable for sexually abusing and defaming the writer E. Jean Carroll on Tuesday after less than three hours of deliberation, delivering a quick and devastating verdict on the conduct and character of the former president.

The plaintiff showed remarkable courage and credibility over the course of three days of draining testimony, especially under cross-examination. Trump attorney Joe Tacopina scored few points and lost many more in his overbearing and overlong attack on Carroll.

But as much as Carroll's heroism, it was Trump's extraordinary villainy that sealed his fate.

Consider the facts of the case apart from the involvement of a former president of the United States: A woman meets a man in a department store, engages in flirtatious banter with him and follows him into a dressing room, where he allegedly assaults her. She doesn't report the episode for 30 years, and neither do her friends who ultimately show up to testify that she told them about it decades earlier.

Such a case sounds like an uphill battle. Most lawyers would shy away from bringing it based on the strong possibility of a verdict for the defense.

What made the difference in this case is the character of the defendant and the plaintiff's success in demonstrating it to the jury. Over eight days of testimony, Carroll showed Trump to be a bully, a coward and a predator.

Trump's instinct as a bully is to humiliate and vilify his critics. Rather than simply deny Carroll's allegations, he insisted on demeaning the case as a "scam" and Carroll as a "wack job" who was "mentally sick." His truly Trumpian coup de grace was that the plaintiff was not his "type" and that there was "no way I would ever be attracted to her," a gratuitously vicious slur that came back to haunt him when he confused Carroll with his ex-wife Marla Maples in a generally disastrous deposition.

Moreover, notwithstanding his repeated swashbuckling claims that he wanted to defend himself in court, Trump revealed his cowardice by turning tail and failing to do so. People with trial experience (including me) predicted as much: Trump's long record of lies would have ensured a bloodbath of a cross-examination and possibly exposure to multiple counts of perjury. Trump, who has spent most of the last few years desperately trying to avoid consequences for his conduct, has a well-known tendency to talk big and then fold.

Worse, Trump's refusal even to show up in court almost certainly alienated the jury and allowed Carroll's counsel to have a field day in closing arguments.

"He never looked you in the eye and denied raping Ms.

By HARRY LITMAN

Los Angeles Times

Harry Litman is the host of the Talking Feds podcast. @harrylitman



Carroll," Carroll attorney Michael Ferrara told the jury. "You should draw the conclusion that that's because he did it."

Trump's pugnacious lawyer had no viable response to this line of argument.

Most damningly, the evidence revealed Trump to be a sexual predator. The federal rules of evidence helped here, permitting the former president to be judged for his propensity to assault women based on his prior similar behavior.

The rules in most cases prohibit the introduction of prior bad acts to suggest that a defendant did it before so you can bet he did it this time. That line of argument goes against our general social and legal commitment to judge a defendant based on conduct rather than character.

But Congress has authorized such evidence in cases of sexual assault. U.S. District Judge Lewis Kaplan accordingly instructed the jury that evidence that Trump previously engaged in sexual assault could be considered as to his tendency to do so again.

The jury was therefore able to consider the testimony of two of Trump's other alleged victims, Jessica Leeds and Natasha Stoyanoff, who had no conceivable reason to make up their stories, and conclude that if he did it to them he probably did it to Carroll.

Perhaps the most memorable and damaging evidence of Trump's propensity for sexual predation consisted of his own words on the infamous "Access Hollywood" tape: "I don't even wait. And when you're a star, they let you do it. You can do anything. Grab 'em by the pussy." As Carroll's lawyer argued, this was more evidence of Trump's abhorrent character: Trump had revealed "in his very own words how he treats women."

The damning verdict will of course be ignored by the fraction of the electorate that is willing to overlook or ignore every one of Trump's transgressions no matter how grave. But for the rest of us, the verdict stands for far more than his misconduct on one afternoon in 1996. It's a judgment of a character that is by leaps and bounds more loathsome than that of any other figure to occupy the presidency.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Oceans are heating up and El Niño will make it worse

Even if you hate the beach, live inland and aren't bothered by dwindling fish, the latest spike in ocean temperature matters to you. The ocean is like a huge closet where we've been able to store 90% of the excess heat trapped by greenhouse gases. That closet is now stuffed. The latest readings from more than 4,000 buoys around the world show record-breaking sea-surface temperatures from January to March this year.

And we're on the cusp of an El Nino event—a shift in wind patterns and ocean currents that opens the closet door and lets heat and energy spill into our atmosphere. That's where the heat buried in the ocean comes back to haunt us.

The changes in sea-surface temperatures don't sound like much—right now they're about 0.2 degrees C above normal. But it sounds like a lot when expressed as energy added to the system that includes our ocean and atmosphere—40 zettajoules, or sextillions of joules. That's the equivalent of hundreds of millions of atomic bombs. It's energy that gets trapped in the system by an increasing concentration of greenhouse gases.

That energy can manifest as heat waves or storms, said Kevin Trenberth, a climatologist I met a few years ago at a meeting in Princeton on the El Nino phenomenon. He was then at the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Colorado, and is now an honorary academic at the University of Auckland.

While the latest news has focused on new surface measurements, he said, the warming goes deeper. Last year he co-authored a paper showing the ocean is warming down to 2,000 meters. The heat doesn't stay there, thanks to the alternating patterns of wind and currents known as El Nino and its opposite counterpart, La Nina.

La Nina has prevailed during the last three years. During this phase, Trenberth said, trade winds push warm equatorial water westward across the Pacific where it piles up by Indonesia. Every two to seven years, that switches to the El Nino pattern. The easterly winds die down enough that the warmer water can slop back toward the Americas.

El Nino events can be gentle or fierce, depending on whether strong westerly winds start helping that warm water slosh back across the Pacific, said Kim Cobb, an oceanographer and climatologist at Brown University. But big ones happen roughly every 10 to 15 years. Real whoppers, she said, have occurred in 1972-73, 1982-83, 1997-98 and 2015-16.

While El Nino is born in the Eastern Pacific, the change in patterns redistributes heat around the planet—disturb-

By FAYE FLAM

Bloomberg Opinion

F.D. Flam is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering science. She is host of the Follow the Science podcast.



ing the entire global atmospheric circulation, she said. The cycle of El Nino and La Nina has probably been going on for millions of years, since our continents and oceans reached in their current configuration.

Now, however, with rapid overall warming, the cycle might become stronger, and is already creating more extreme conditions. "When we think about what sets the thermostat of our planet, it really is our oceans," she explained.

Trenberth said that even during the La Nina phase we've seen hot spots in the Pacific that have led to trouble: "This was the region that was feeding the atmospheric rivers that flowed into California and produced all the prodigious rains and even snows in the southwestern parts of the United States."

Even though there's more capacity for heat deep in the ocean, the water heats up at the surface first, and since cold water is heavier, that can create regions of unhealthy stillness, where normal circulation stops and blobs of stagnant oxygen-depleted ocean grow. That's why scientists have been observing alarming dead zones in the Gulf of Mexico, which are made worse by nitrate runoff from farms.

"It affects the phytoplankton, the zooplankton, the fish, the marine mammals and seabirds," Trenberth said. Warming oceans also lead to marine heat waves, which can destroy kelp forests and grasses that provided a home for fish and marine mammals.

Trenberth uses the phrase global heating to describe what's going on. Global warming implies increasing atmospheric temperatures, while global heating suggests extra energy sloshing around the whole system that is our atmosphere and oceans.

He recently found some old VHS tapes of his interviews in the 1990s, and sent a 1997 interview from the MacNeil/Lehrer News Hour, where he talks about the danger of global heating. Watching it 26 years later, not much has changed in the basic underpinnings of the science. But the climate certainly has.

For whistleblowers, motives matter

By LISA LING and SARAH CORDS
PROGRESSIVE PERSPECTIVES

The Pentagon leaks story first broke on April 6, when The New York Times reported that classified documents had been shared among members of a Discord server. Barely a week later, live footage aired of the suspected leaker—21-year-old Air National Guard member Jack Teixeira—being arrested at his family's home in Massachusetts.

Since then, new information has been uncovered about Teixeira, who worked on an Air Force Distributed Common Ground System (DCGS). It reveals that he was a conspiracy theorist who, prior to his arrest, aimed to back up his frequent anti-government rants by sharing top secret documents within his online community. He was also stockpiling weapons and military gear, including AR-style rifles, as well as displaying an obsession with mass shootings.

The fact that an extremist like Teixeira was granted access to highly classified information at a secret facility, and prompted no red flags, brings up a key problem: There is not enough public oversight of the military.

Every American should know more about what happens at Air Force DCGS sites across the country and around the globe. More than 1.25 million people possess a "top secret" clearance from the Department of Defense. How can we be sure that there aren't hundreds of people like Teixeira holding documents that could impact national security, or if there are massive amounts of overly classified documents with information the public has a right to know about? Without real

oversight, it is impossible to be truly informed about what our military is up to or where our tax dollars are spent.

Teixeira's job title was "cyber transport systems journeyman," but what does that actually mean? The Air Force says the job provides "communication through connection," and it includes upgrading and repairing data and video equipment. It is precisely this type of work that the military is recruiting teenagers for and targeting gamers specifically.

Psychological screenings and support must be funded, encouraged and available to troops who work within these massive weapon systems to mitigate the risks of another leak. Had Teixeira undergone a psychological evaluation, he would likely have been flagged before being granted access. It is significant that DCGS where Teixeira worked remains largely unknown while quietly gathering and distributing state secrets.

Since the leaks, a familiar narrative has taken shape: Teixeira is a bad apple; this was an isolated failure at a single facility; and that a "comprehensive review" by the Pentagon will prevent more leaks from happening in the future. This is an insufficient approach to systemic problems, especially as the Pentagon grapples with "extremists infiltrating the ranks."

The Espionage Act of 1917, under which Teixeira is being charged, was used frequently during both the Obama and Trump administrations. Actual whistleblowers like Reality Winner and Daniel Hale saw that the classified information they handled within their workplaces did not match the information being given to the public, acted on principle, yet were prosecuted under the same overbroad act.

Now a new proposal by Rep. Rashida Tlaib, D-Mi., to amend

May Lampoons and Liar's Club Runes

LITERARY NOOK

By JOEY CONNOLLY

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Joey aka Pepe Batbon Connolly is a retired educator who taught in the CNMI, NOLA, and LVNV. He is a sonnet practitioner who enjoys stargazing.



45's Media Viral a Downward Spiral

Trump's not going to quit it but that he hasn't realized he's not going to be it and that fact he can't seem to see the deaf and blind GOP are very close to being paralyzed it can't shake itself free of fear, none of them feel free

Trump was banned from Twitter he's got his own brand his beloved Fox channel entertainment is now disgraced his distinct demagoguery is on a slow downward spiral suffering from Tucker Carlson's exit exaggeration pox

DeSantis not so sweet orange state sucks a sour lime political pundits and pollsters take their daily tally as the GOP presidential primary hits the prime time less than 2% popularity for candidate Nikki Halley

As they all flounder flushed down in a loser's alley more indictments and lawsuits continue their sally.

EE Gads! George Anthony Devolder Santos

ee gads! new Rep from Long Island, NY got 13 counts the lying fraudster congressman's list daily mounts Georgie Porgie pudding and partisan GOP voter pie couldn't live a single day without a telling another lie He couldn't even get his own name straight about his own mother's death got the date late Is he trans? a drag queen? he's in deep denial says he's JEW-"ISH" eats bacon and pork hot dogs prep school, college, sports he lied by a mile took money for a vets' dog according to blogs has told fraudulent lies about land ownership then on the floor of Congress he wore an AR15 pin then there's check fraud in Brazil coming at a clip maybe as POTUS 45's VP choice he'd possibly win he's removed himself (ha ha) from each committee. GOP embarrassed and ashamed of him, ain't that a pity.

No way to delay, there's more trouble coming every day.

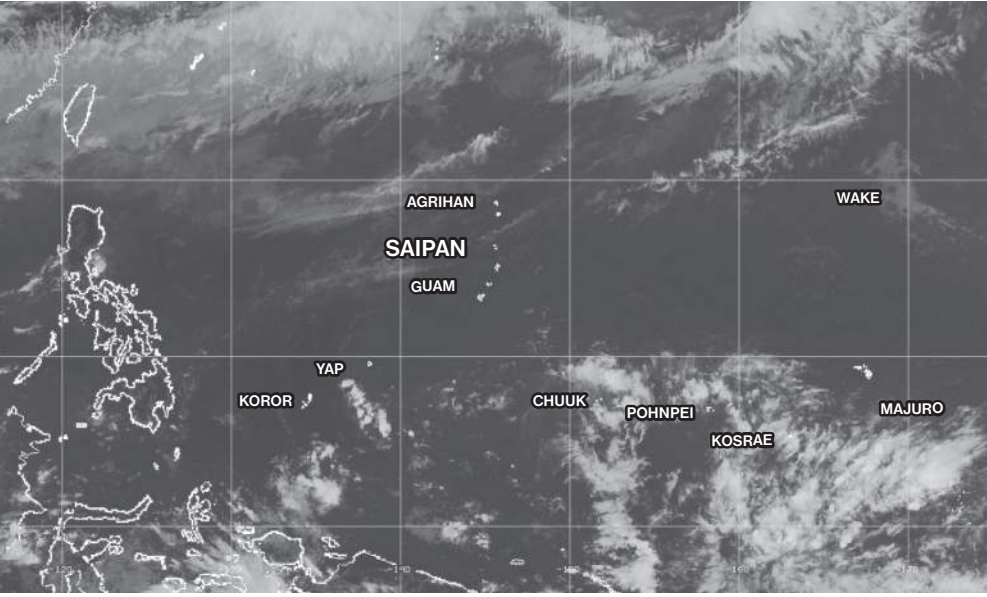
the Espionage Act would permit those charged under it the most democratic of rights: the ability to offer their own explanation for their actions to a jury of their peers. Motives matter, and to the extent that Teixeira had any for his actions, we need to know what they were from the only person who really knows: Teixeira himself. Because Espionage Act violations are strict liability offenses, this is not currently permitted at trial, and for this reason, both whistleblowers and leakers end up taking a plea deal.

As a country that spends more money on war and surveillance than any other, shouldn't we hold all who prosecute our wars, keep our state secrets, and spend our tax dollars to the highest standard? Teixeira's ability to gain top secret access, despite his extremist views, shows the danger of combining a growing dependency on data collection and secrecy with our ignorance of how our military functions.

Lisa Ling served in the U.S. military as a technical sergeant on drone surveillance systems before leaving with an honorable discharge in 2012. She appears in the 2016 documentary on drone warfare, National Bird. Sarah Cords is a children's nonfiction author and writes for The Progressive. This column was produced for The Progressive magazine and distributed by Tribune News Service.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
Isolated showers. Mostly sunny		Isolated showers. Mostly sunny		Mostly sunny		Mostly sunny		Mostly sunny	
88°	77°	88°	79°	88°	79°	88°	78°	84°	78°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 7:48 AM, SUNDAY, MAY 14, 2023
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Early this morning, the analysis shows a surface trough is approaching the Marianas from the east. Currently, most of the showers associated with this feature are near Guam and its coastal waters. The buoys and altimetry data shows seas are in the 3 to 5 foot range, with a water temperature of 85 degrees at Ipan and 84 at Ritidian.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA			▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	89° / 80°	
Palau	Thunderstorms	86° / 76°	
Yap	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°	
Chuuk	Scattered Thunderstorms	87° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	85° / 77°	
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°	
Majuro	Scattered Thunderstorms	85° / 81°	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:48 AM	6:38 PM
Tuesday	5:48 AM	6:38 PM
Wednesday	5:48 AM	6:38 PM
Thursday	5:47 AM	6:39 PM
Friday	5:47 AM	6:39 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	2:29 AM	2:39 PM	-
Tuesday	3:08 AM	3:33 PM	-
Wednesday	3:47 AM	4:27 PM	-
Thursday	4:27 AM	5:22 PM	-
Friday	5:09 AM	6:18 PM	-

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Showers	63° / 51°	
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	96° / 68°	
Hong Kong	Cloudy	78° / 74°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	80° / 70°	
London	Cloudy	58° / 43°	
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	77° / 59°	
Manila	Mostly Cloudy	93° / 82°	
Melbourne	Sunny	70° / 52°	
Miami	Mostly Cloudy	83° / 76°	
New York	Partly Cloudy	74° / 53°	
Osaka	Scattered Thunderstorms	74° / 57°	
Paris	Light Rain	62° / 45°	
Busan	Sunny	71° / 61°	
Rome	Light Rain	72° / 55°	
Salem	Mostly Sunny	89° / 67°	
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	68° / 56°	
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	82° / 58°	
Tokyo	Rain	65° / 58°	
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	77° / 54°	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
4:30 AM	High Tide	2.07	
10:57 AM	Low Tide	0.83	
4:20 PM	High Tide	1.68	
10:32 PM	Low Tide	0.54	

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 30, 2023							
DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:50AM	10:35AM	Daily	UA174	8:00AM	8:45AM	Daily
SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
UA824	7:25AM	9:55AM	1, 3, 5	UA825	9:25PM	1:50AM+1	2, 4, 7
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
PR 111	5:55AM	7:55AM	Daily	UA184	10:25PM	4:15AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA193	6:55PM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Palau	UA189	10:25PM	6:10AM+1	2, 5 via Palau
UA183	7:15PM	9:10PM	Daily	PR110	10:30PM	4:25AM+1	Daily
				UA192	11:50PM	5:35AM+1	2, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/703	4:20AM	10:35PM	1, 4, 5, 7 via ICN	UA184/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via Guam
UA117/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam	UA192/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	2, 5 via Palau, Guam
UA117/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Guam, Palau	UA184/174	11:50PM	8:45AM+1	2, 5 via Guam
SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)				INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	3:15AM	7:00AM	Daily	7C3406	9:30AM	3:10PM	Daily
OZ626	4:20AM	7:55AM	1, 4, 5, 7	TW307	8:30PM	2:15AM+1	Daily
7C3403	4:45AM	8:35AM	Daily	OZ625	9:25PM	2:55AM+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3405	4:10PM	7:45PM	Daily	7C3405	10:10PM	3:40AM+1	Daily

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.							
FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2022							
SAIPAN TO ROTA				ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30	9:00	Daily	3101	9:30	10:00	Daily
1302	11:00	11:30	Mon/Wed/Fri	3102	13:00	13:30	Tues/Thurs/ Sat/Sun
1302	12:00	12:30	Tues/Thurs/ Sat/Sun	3102	14:00	14:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
1303	15:30	16:00	Daily	3103	16:30	17:00	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM				GUAM TO ROTA			
LIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	12:00	12:30	Mon/Wed/Fri	4301	13:00	13:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily	2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily	2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily	2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily	2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily	2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily	2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily	2111	17:30	17:45	Daily

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Friday, Saipan Tribune offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of \$180. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

Olivia and Liam still most popular baby names in 2022

Olivia and Liam are once again America's most popular baby names in 2022. Liam has topped the list for six years in a row, and Olivia has been the top choice for new parents for four years. There is only one new name in the top 10, with Luna crawling into the top 10 for the first time.

Here are the top 10 boys' and girls' names for 2022:

BOYS:

1. Liam
2. Noah
3. Oliver
4. James
5. Elijah
6. William
7. Henry
8. Lucas
9. Benjamin
10. Theodore

GIRLS:

1. Olivia
2. Emma
3. Charlotte
4. Amelia
5. Sophia
6. Isabella
7. Ava
8. Mia
9. Evelyn
10. Luna

Social Security began compiling the baby names list in 1997, with names dating back to 1880. Each year, the list reveals the effect of pop-culture on naming trends. The top five fastest rising boys' and girls' names in 2022 are:

BOYS:

1. Dutton
2. Kayce
3. Chosen
4. Khaza

GIRLS:

1. Wrenlee
2. Neriah
3. Arlet
4. Georgina
5. Amiri

Visit www.ssa.gov/baby-names to view the entire list and see where your name ranks now and over the past 100 years.

“Just like your name, Social Security is with you from Day 1. One of the first things parents do for their newborn is get them a Social Security number. That makes Social Security the ultimate source for the most popular baby names each year,” said Kilolo Kijakazi, acting commissioner of Social Security. “And just like a name, Social Security is with you through life’s journey. See what else you can do at www.ssa.gov while you’re online.”


Visitors will experience a fresh homepage and new design to help them find what they need more easily, with clear paths to the tasks customers need to accomplish. This is part of ongoing efforts to improve how the public can do business with the agency.

While online, users can


create my Social Security accounts. *my* Social Security is a personalized online account that people can use beginning in their working years and continuing into retirement. Nearly 80 million people have signed up at www.ssa.gov/myaccount and benefited from the many secure and convenient self-service options. They can request a replacement Social Security card online if they meet certain requirements. If they already receive Social Security benefits, they can start or change direct deposit online, request a replacement SSA-

1099, and if they need proof of their benefits, they can print or download a current Benefit Verification Letter from their account.

People not yet receiving benefits can use their *my* Social Security account to get personalized *Social Security Statements*, which provide their earnings information as well as estimates of their future benefits. The portal also includes links to information about other online services, such as applications for retirement, disability, and Medicare benefits. (*SSA*)



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
 P.O. BOX 501370
 SAIPAN, MP 96950



PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Eighteenth CNMI State Board of Education hereby gives notice that there will be a **Regular Board Meeting on Thursday, May 18, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. via zoom. Please see the link below.**


AGENDA¹

- I. Preliminary**
 1. Call to Order
 2. Roll Call
 3. Adoption of Agenda
 4. Adoption of Minutes
 - a. March 23, 2023 Regular Board meeting
 - b. April 21, 2023 Special Board meeting
- II. Public Comments²**
- III. Reports**
 1. Chair's Report
 2. Commissioner of Education
 - a. Financial Status Reports
 - i. Federal
 - ii. Local
 - b. Head Start Program
 - c. Others
 3. Committee Reports
 - a. CIP
 - b. FPA
 - c. ISA
 - d. LIA
 - e. SICPP
 - f. SARC
- IV. Old Business**
 1. Overtime Pay-PSS Personnel (Typhoon Yutu)
- V. New Business**
 1. FY2023 Revised Budget
 2. FY2024 Budget Request
 3. Corrective Actions Audit Narrative
 4. SY 2023-2024 School Meals Menu
 5. School Repair Funding Allocation
 6. Stronger Connections Grant
 7. ServiceMembers' Appreciation Week Proclamation
 8. Certification & Licensure Matter
 - a. CLO Report No. 2023-18-03
- VI. Legal Counsel's Report**
- VII. Executive Session³**
- VIII. Miscellaneous**
- IX. Discussion of Agenda for next Board Meeting**
- X. Adjournment**

¹ Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/96676571869?pwd=czJXcEYndlOXhanc4UdDQ0MmVncXhRUT09>


Meeting ID: 966 7657 1869
 Passcode: 320916

² Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.
³ Pursuant to BOE Policy 0415, public comments are limited to 30 minutes. We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcome to submit written comments.



El D. Cabrera
Administrator

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 501304, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.dcrm.gov.mp



Richard V. Salas
Director, DCRM

AMENDED
NOTICE OF DCRM PUBLIC HEARING
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS (Action Agency)
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS (Owner)
SUGAR DOCK RECONSTRUCTION & DREDGING PROJECT
(RESCHEDULE FROM MAY 18TH to MAY 30TH)
AND
COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
RECONSTRUCTION OF THE SAIPAN AIRPORT
COMMUTER TERMINAL BUILDING

The Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) will be holding a public hearing for the following projects:

CRM Major Siting Application No. CRMMS2023-0006 - The Departments of Public Works (DPW) and Public Lands (DPL) are proposing to reconstruct the Sugar Dock and boat launching ramp facilities situated on public land identified as Lot No. 058 H 02 in Susupe, Saipan. The public property contains an area of about 14,919 square feet or 0.34 acres.


CRM Major Siting Application No. SMS-2003-X-007-A1 (Amendment) - The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is proposing to demolish the existing commuter terminal building at the Saipan International Airport and to construct a new building within the same existing footprint. The project, in general, includes installation/construction of new fuel line, new covered walkway, new terminal facility with four (4) airlines offices and counter space, restaurant vendor space, restrooms for departure and arrivals, lactating room, office space/counter for U.S. Customs and Border Protection including all associated work specified in the design and specification plans.

The public hearing for these projects is scheduled on Tuesday, May 30, 2023, at **5:00PM**, at the **DCRM Learning Center 3rd Floor, Suite 301, Gualo Rai Center, Middle Road, Lower Gualo Rai, Saipan**.

Virtual public participation is available via video conferencing through Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j> (Meeting ID: 6706648315). Our Zoom meeting access code may change, please call the DCRM Permitting Office at (670) 664-8300 for connection assistance at least one-day prior to the public hearing date.

If you are unable to attend virtually or in-person, written comments can be submitted to the DCRM Permitting Office, Suite 305, Gualo Rai Center, Middle Road, Gualo Rai, Saipan, or mailed to the Division of Coastal Resources Management, P.O. Box 501304, or sent by fax at 664-8315, or by email at ssablan@dcrm.gov.mp. The project file is open for review and comments during regular business hours from 7:30 A.M. - 4:30 P.M., Monday through Friday. All written and oral comments received by DCRM will be included as part of the permit application records and will be considered in any decisions concerning the proposed project. Please contact Ms. Sam Sablan at the DCRM Permitting Office at 664-8300/1 if you have any questions or would like to learn more about the Sugar Dock Reconstruction and Dredging project and the Reconstruction of the Saipan Airport Commuter Terminal Building project.

/s/ RICHARD V. SALAS
Director, DCRM
Division of Coastal Resources Management



NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
 P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
 Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.net

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
 Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp • Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.net

PUBLIC NOTICE

04/17/2023

Notice for Public Comment

Reprogramming of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds

Program Year/ IDIS No.:	Program:	Activity Name:	Subrecipient:	Approved Budget:	Proposed Reprogramming:	Proposed Revised Project:	Current IDIS Funded Amount:
DIS# 733	CDBG	Purchase of Personal Protective Equipment For DFEMS	Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services	\$644,160.80	(\$9,316.80)	0	\$644,160.80
2016	CDBG	PY2016 Unobligated Funds Available to commit			(\$13,216.45)		
2018	CDBG	PY 2018 Unobligated Funds Available to Commit			(\$14,972.43)		
2019	CDBG	PY2019 Unobligated Funds Available to Commit			(\$24,914.28)		
2020	CDBG	PY2020 Unobligated Funds Available to Commit			(\$15,157.50)		
IDIS#715	CDBG	Kagman Community Park, Phase 2 Project		\$245,000.00	(\$49,223.20)	(\$195,776.80)	\$245,000.00
IDIS#763	CDBG	Renovation of Tinian Little League Baseball Field		\$330,000.00	(\$57,533.20)	(\$272,466.80)	\$330,000.00
IDIS#757	CDBG	Outdoor Fitness Court Facility (Rota)		\$115,166.40	(\$115,166.40)	0	\$115,166.40
		Total Reprogrammed from Activities:			(299,500.26)		
IDIS# 756	CDBG	Municipal of Tinian and Aguigan Multi-Purpose Facility	Municipality of Tinian and Aguigan	\$195,000.00	\$45,520.00	\$240,520.00	\$195,000.00
764	CDBG	Rehabilitation of the Sinapalo Youth Center	Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, Division of Youth Services	\$123,100.00	\$36,900.00	\$160,000.00	\$123,100.00
765	CDBG	Rehabilitation of the Sinapalo Basketball Court	Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, Division of Youth Services	\$20,000.00	\$20,000.00	\$40,000.00	\$20,000.00
732	CDBG	Purchase of Two Wildland Trucks for the CNMI Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services (DFEMS)	Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services (DFEMS)	\$280,000.00	\$59,900.00	\$339,900.00	\$280,000.00
NEW	CDBG	Demolition of Perilous Structures (Rota)	Municipality of Rota		\$137,180.P26		
		Total Reprogrammed to Activities			\$299,500.26		

Our agency through its Citizen Participation Plan (CPP) publishes a "Public Notice" on reprogramming funds over \$100,001.00. Therefore, comments from the general public should be submitted to NMHC Central Office located in Garapan, Saipan, and in Rota and Tinian Field Offices, on or before May 19, 2023 no later than 4:30 P.M. You may contact Ms. Zenie P. Mafnas, Deputy Corporate Director or Ms. Tricia Tenorio, Planner @ (670)234-6866/9447

THROUGH INVESTING IN AMERICA AGENDA

\$12M awarded to combat climate change in US territories

During remarks at the Department of the Interior’s Territorial Climate and Infrastructure Workshop in Hawaii last Friday, assistant secretary for International and Insular Affairs Carmen G. Cantor and White House Council on Environmental Quality chair Brenda Mallory announced \$12 million in key investments from the Inflation Reduction Act for climate change planning, mitigation, adaptation and resilience for the U.S. territories of American Samoa, Guam,

the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

The Territorial Climate and Infrastructure Workshop convened local, federal and territorial representatives to discuss how President Joe Biden’s Investing in America agenda is providing once-in-a-generation climate and infrastructure resources to the U.S. territories, including investments in ecosystem restoration and climate resilience.

“The Investing in America

agenda presents an important opportunity for the territories in their efforts to plan for, mitigate the effects of, and build resiliency against climate change,” said Cantor. “These investments will support our work to foster stable and sustainable island communities, as we partner with territorial governments to build climate resilient communities.”

“President Biden’s Investing in America Agenda is turbocharging our efforts to protect all communities from the impacts of the climate crisis, including island communities that face unique climate challenges,” said Mallory. “This funding will increase coastal resilience across the U.S. territories through new infrastructure that will mitigate flooding, prevent erosion, improve stormwater drainage, and build stronger and more sustainable communities.”

Friday’s announcement follows the release of the Department’s restoration and resilience framework, a plan to leverage historic investments in climate and conservation to achieve landscape-level outcomes across the nation – including through a commitment to building resilient Islands. Through the Investing in America agenda, the department is implementing more than \$2 billion to restore our nation’s lands and waters and build climate resilience. The framework lays out an initial set of keystone initiatives to guide historic investments from both laws, which are focused on addressing the cli-

mate and biodiversity crises, advancing co-stewardship and equity, furthering locally led, collaborative strategies and focusing landscape-scale restoration work on areas where the department has an opportunity have a transformational impact at scale.

The funding awards announced Friday are as follows:

■ \$3,000,000 to the U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Planning and Natural Resources for a Climate Adaptation Roadmap for the U.S. Virgin Islands. The project will include data collection on temperature and water resources to better understand trends specific to the territory and its climate needs. Funds will also be used to restore historical documents that were damaged by repeated heavy storms, harden existing infrastructure that houses archival documents for the territory, and digitize historical and archival materials.

■ \$2,800,000 to the American Samoa Office of Disaster Assistance and Petroleum Management for efforts to collect and update data on sea level rise to ensure that it is the most current and accurate for all seven islands of American Samoa. Data collected through this project will be included in the National Geodetic Survey’s Sea Level Viewer Tool, updating vertical data for Tutuila and the Manua Islands. Funds will also support community outreach, development of mitigation strategies, and creation of a manual on best

management practices for shoreline protection. Funds will also support implementation of recommendations in the Faga’alu Watershed Plan, identified by the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force as a priority watershed. These efforts will improve water quality, reduce risks of flooding, and increase resilience to a changing climate.

■ \$2,786,004 to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands government for numerous priority projects including to restore and rehabilitate Jeffrey’s Beach to support public use, while also preventing erosion, damage and run-off; improve stormwater infrastructure at Tanapag Middle School and the Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School; improve stormwater drainage and rehabilitate the shoreline at Tanapag Beach Park to prevent erosion; manage stormwater and mitigate land-based sources of pollution at the Lower Base Lift Station; update the CNMI Stormwater Management Manual; promote food security through subsistence farming and chicken raising practices through the “Ta Tanom: Let’s Plant” project on Rota; and promote food security for families on Saipan through the Home Gardens Food

Security Initiative. Several of the projects are located within the CNMI’s prioritized Achugao Watershed area.

■ \$2,764,000 to the Guam government for several projects, including to study the Hågatña River for solutions to mitigate flooding and damage within the identified 100-year flood zone; study of climate events and impacts related to the 2018 Hågatña Master Plan and plan for increased watershed potential and drainage capacity to mitigate flooding; and stabilize the Umatac and Ñamo Rivers through pre-storm cleaning and maintenance to mitigate and stabilize soil erosion and control flooding in the southern villages of Santa Rita, Agat, and Umatac while also protecting coral reefs offshore.

■ \$649,996 to the U.S. Geological Survey to conduct a rigorous valuation of where potential coral reef restoration could decrease the hazards of erosion and flooding faced by coastal communities in Guam, Saipan and Tinian in the Mariana Islands; and Tutuila, Tau and Ofu-Olosega in American Samoa. The USGS will issue a final report with the results. A similar coral reef valuation and report was produced for Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. **(DOI)**

Division of Land Registration and Survey to relocate to San Vicente

The Division of Land Registration and Survey under the CNMI Department of Lands and Natural Resources is informing the public that its offices will be closed from May 15 to 19, 2023, as staff will be transitioning to their new office at the San Vicente Youth Center.

Individuals who need assistance are asked to email dlrs.cnmi@gmail.com at this time. **(PR)**



NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp
Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.net>

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

(This is ad is paid for NMHC with HUD funds)

NMHC RFP 2023-003
BID SUBMISSION DATE & TIME: June 15, 2023, 10:00 a.m.

Architect-Engineer Services for the Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) Program Housing Projects

The RFP packet is available on May 15, 2023, online at www.nmhc.gov.net and at www.cnmi-cdbgdr.com by clicking on the "Procurement Tab". All interested firms shall submit their intent to participate via email at officemanager@nmhc.gov.net.


All inquiries questions or requests for clarification must be submitted in writing to Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager/Procurement Officer at officemanager@nmhc.gov.net or submitted by facsimile to (670)234-9021, no later than 4:00 p.m. local time on May 19, 2023.

This procurement is in accordance with the NMHC Procurement Regulations. Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with NMIAC §100-60-210 (Competitive Sealed Proposals) of the NMHC Procurement Regulations. To also include the provisions of NMHC Procurement Regulations, NMIAC Section §100-60-725 & § 100-60-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent fees shall apply.

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager/Procurement Officer, at (670)234-6866/9447 or email at officemanager@nmhc.gov.net during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/
Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC)

/s/
Marcie M. Tomokane
Chairwoman
NMHC Board of Directors



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

MAIN OFFICE: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2ND FLOOR ARRIVAL BLDG.
PO BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP • 96950
PHONE: (1-670) 237-6500/1 • FAX: (1-670) 234-5962
E-MAIL ADDRESS: CPA.ADMIN@PTICOM.COM • WEBSITE: [HTTPS://WWW.CNMIPTS.COM](https://WWW.CNMIPTS.COM)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE SERVICE AND REPAIRS FOR ACCESS CONTROL, VIDEO MONITORING, AND GATE OPERATOR AT THE FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-010-23

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (Authority) is inviting qualified and experienced contractors specializing in airport security systems to submit sealed proposal, subject to the terms and conditions of this Request for Proposal (the "RFP"), and other contract provisions, for the preventive maintenance services and repairs of the Authority access control, video monitoring, and gate operator at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

The RFP Package is available beginning May 15, 2023, at the Authority's Accounting Office, 2nd Floor, Departure Terminal Building, Saipan International Airport upon payment of an administrative fee of \$100.00 payable to the "Commonwealth Ports Authority". **Payment shall be by cash, certified cashier's check, postal money order, or credit card.**

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:	
RFP Issued Date	May 15, 2023
Pre-proposal Meeting	June 02, 2023 (10:00 A.M.)
Deadline for Questions and/or Clarification	June 05, 2023
Deadline for RFP submission	June 13, 2023 (4:00 PM)


Qualified proposers shall submit their proposals sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for Preventive Maintenance Service and Repairs to Access Control, Video Monitoring, and Gate Operator at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Project No. CPA-RFP-010-23". Proposals must be submitted no later than **4:00 p.m. Local Time, June 13, 2023**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. Proposals submitted by facsimile (fax) transmission will not be considered. Any proposals received after the proposal submittal deadline shall be returned to the proposer unopened.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted if sufficient justification exist that awarding the project would not be in the best interest of the CPA.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY.

EDWARD B MENDIOLA
Deputy Executive Director

_____ Date



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cnmiports.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 03-2023

Opening date: May 08, 2023

Closing date: May 26, 2023

Location: SAIPAN
Position(s): (1) ARFF Mechanic II
(1) Custodial-I
(1) Equipment Operator-I
(1) General Maintenance-I
(1) Master Electrician
(2) Ports Police Trainee

SALARY
PL 6/1 to 6/12 (\$9.27/hr to \$15.85/hr)
PL 1/1 to 1/12 (\$7.26/hr to \$12.42/hr)
PL 4/1 to 4/12 (\$8.41/hr to \$14.38/hr)
PL 3/1 to 3/12 (\$8.01/hr to \$13.70/hr)
PL 19/1 to 19/12 (17.48/hr to \$29.90/hr)
PL 5/1 (\$8.83/hr)

Location: TINIAN
Position(s): (1) AOA Controller/Ground Maintenance-I
(1) Custodial-I


SALARY
PL 5/1 to 5/12 (\$8.83/hr to \$15.10/hr)
PL 1/1 to 1/12 (\$7.26/hr to \$12.42/hr)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the **CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or CPA Administration Office, Tinian International Airport, or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport**. Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10-year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) or at the Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport is no later than **5:00 P.M. on Friday, May 26, 2023**.

Detailed information on qualifications and position descriptions for the above positions may be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., except on holidays, at the CPA Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or CPA Admin. Office at the Tinian International Airport or at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at lorna.robert@cnmiports.com and hrspecialist@cnmiports.com or by phone at (670)237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

MAIN OFFICE: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2ND FLOOR ARRIVAL BLDG.
PO BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP • 96950
PHONE: (1-670) 237-6500/1 • FAX: (1-670) 234-5962
E-MAIL ADDRESS: CPA.ADMIN@PTICOM.COM • WEBSITE: [HTTPS://WWW.CNMIPTS.COM](https://WWW.CNMIPTS.COM)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport
"Retail Concession"
CPA-RFP-005-23
for:
CPA Concession No. RCA-2022-01

The Commonwealth Ports Authority ("CPA" or "Authority") is soliciting proposals for the award of one (1) concession granting the privilege to provide retail services to the traveling public at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport ("Retail Concession"). The successful proposer will be expected to provide retail services in accordance with its concession and concession agreement at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport for a period of Three (3) years upon entering into a concession agreement with the Authority.

The date of issuance of CPA-RFP-005-23 is **April 20, 2023**, and it can be obtained at the issuing office: CPA Administration Office, Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, Second floor of Arrival terminal at the Saipan International Airport or at the administration office at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport.

Proposals must be addressed to Commonwealth Ports Authority, Attn: Retail Concessions Evaluation Committee, CPA Administration Office, Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950; and submitted to and received by the CPA Administration Office (second floor of arrival terminal at the Saipan International Airport) **by or before 4:00 p.m. on May 23, 2023**, at which time the proposal period shall expire. Proposals must be accompanied with a non-refundable administrative fee of \$50.00. Payment shall be made in cash, credit card, or cashier's check payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority to defray the costs associated with handling and considering the proposal. Proposals are not required to include a prepaid minimum concession fee.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to cancel this RFP and to reject any and all proposals in accordance with its Concession Regulations (NMIAC Chapter 40-70).

/s/
CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Business



FOR 2ND CONSECUTIVE YEAR BY STARS & STRIPES GRMC voted 'Best Off-Base Medical Services in the Pacific'

JOEL DELA CRUZ

Stars and Stripes Pacific executive Douglas Johnson presents the 2023 Best of the Pacific "Best-Off-Base Medical Service" award certificate to GRMC president and CEO Alan Funtanilla, middle, and the entire GRMC executive team (left to right): executive vice president/chief financial officer Ted Constantino; senior vice president/chief Human Resources officer, Charlotte Huntsman; senior vice president/chief medical officer Dr. Alexander "Beau" Wielaard; vice president of Marketing & Business Development Eric Plinske; senior vice president/chief nursing officer Jennifer Cruz; and vice president of Support Services, Bernie Lobaton.

DEDEDO, Guam—Guam Regional Medical City was recently awarded "2023 Best Off-Base Medical Service in the Pacific" by *Stars and Stripes* newspaper. This marks the second year in a row that GRMC received this award.

Douglas Johnson, an execu-

tive from the *Stars and Stripes* Pacific Headquarters in Tokyo, Japan, recently visited GRMC to present the award to the entire GRMC executive team.

GRMC president and CEO Alan Funtanilla said, "It is truly an honor to have won this

award two years in a row, especially since we didn't even know that we were selected by *Stars & Stripes* to be a candidate in the competition. GRMC is a devoted partner of the U.S. military, and we will continue to provide world class healthcare for our mili-

tary and veteran communities as GRMC has established itself as the region's acute care hub for specialty care."

According to their website, the *Stars and Stripes* is a multimedia news bureau that aims to provide first-hand report-

ing on news and information worldwide to the U.S. military community, including service members, civilians, veterans, contractors, and their families. *Stars and Stripes* Pacific annually polls members of military communities throughout the

Pacific on the best local facilities, services, and destinations on and off base. The annual poll results, titled "Best in the Pacific," are then shared with daily edition subscribers and U.S. military bases throughout the Pacific. (PR)

Housing advocates warn GOP spending plan would be 'disastrous'

By R.J. RICO
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Housing advocates are raising the alarm about House Republicans' plan to dramatically cut the federal deficit to raise the debt ceiling, warning rental aid would be stripped from hundreds of thousands of struggling families who could face eviction and possible homelessness at a time when rents remain high.

House Republicans narrowly passed a sweeping measure last month that would roll back non-defense spending to 2022 levels — a proposal the National Low Income Housing Coalition said would slash housing and homelessness programs by 23%, a significant blow to the Housing Choice Voucher rental assistance program that around 2.3 million families rely on to cover rent.

"House Republicans' plan would have drastic negative impacts on communities'

abilities to address homelessness and the housing crisis," Diane Yentel, the coalition's CEO and president, told The Associated Press. "If these proposals were enacted, it would mean communities would have to take away housing assistance from people who already have it, and need it."

Though House Speaker Kevin McCarthy's legislation has virtually no chance of becoming law, Republicans hope it will force President Joe Biden to the negotiating table, where the GOP could seek concessions in return for lifting the debt ceiling and ensuring the U.S. Treasury can pay its bills.

Yentel said she worries that Democrats will agree to painful cuts to housing funds in order to reach a compromise.

In 2011, during a similar standoff over the debt ceiling, then-President Barack Obama and then-Speaker John Boehner agreed to au-

tomatic annual spending cuts — a deal Yentel said hamstrung the Department of Housing and Urban Development for years.

"The Budget Control Act led to very tight spending caps over 10 years for HUD programs as well as many others," Yentel said. "Even though we haven't been under those tight spending caps over the past couple of years ... we still haven't made up for all of the cuts since 2011."

Due to high inflation and rising rents, voucher program funding needs to rise each year just to maintain the status quo, she said.

It's been over a year since rent increases hit a fever pitch, with median listings rising 16.4% from January 2021 to January 2022, according to realtor.com. Rents rose 0.6% from March to April, according to federal data. Though still high, that's one of the smallest increases in the past year.

G7 finance leaders vow to contain inflation, strengthen supply chains

NIIGATA, Japan (AP)—The Group of Seven's top financial leaders united Saturday in their support for Ukraine and their determination to enforce sanctions against Russia for its aggression but stopped short of any overt mention of China.

The finance ministers and central bank chiefs ended three days of talks in Niigata, Japan, with a joint statement pledging to bring inflation under control, help countries struggling with onerous debts and strengthen financial systems.

They also committed to collaborating to build more stable, diversified supply chains for developing clean energy sources and to "enhance economic resilience globally against various shocks."

The statement did not include any specific mention of China or of "economic coercion" in pursuit of political objectives, such as penalizing the companies of countries whose governments take actions that anger another country.

Talk this week of such

moves by China had drawn outraged rebukes from Beijing. Officials attending the talks in this port city apparently balked at overtly condemning China, given the huge stake most countries have in good relations with the rising power and No. 2 economy.

The finance leaders' talks laid the groundwork for a summit of G-7 leaders in Hiroshima next week that President Joe Biden is expected to attend despite a crisis over the U.S. debt ceiling that could result in a national default if it is not resolved in the coming weeks.

Japanese Finance Minister Shunichi Suzuki said that Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen mentioned the issue in a working dinner, but he refrained from saying anything more.

While in Niigata, Yellen warned that a failure to raise the debt ceiling to enable the government to continue paying its bills would bring an economic catastrophe, destroying hundreds of thou-

sands of jobs and potentially disrupting global financial systems. No mention of the issue was made in the finance leaders' statement.

The G-7's devotion to protecting what it calls a "rules-based international order" got only a passing mention.

The leaders pledge to work together both within the G-7 and with other countries to "enhance economic resilience globally against various shocks, stand firm to protect our shared values, and preserve economic efficiency by upholding the free, fair and rules-based multilateral system," it said.

G-7 economies comprise only a tenth of the world's population but about 30% of economic activity, down from roughly half 40 years ago. Developing economies like China, India and Brazil have made huge gains, raising questions about the G-7's relevance and role in leading a world economy increasingly reliant on growth in less wealthy nations.

Nation

US-Mexico border sees orderly crossings as new migration rules take effect

EL PASO, Texas (AP)—The U.S.-Mexico border was relatively calm as the U.S. ended its pandemic-era immigration restrictions and migrants adapted to new asylum rules and legal pathways meant to discourage illegal crossings.

A full day after the rules known as Title 42 were lifted, migrants and government officials on Friday were still assessing the effects of new regulations adopted by President Joe Biden's administration in hope of stabilizing the Southwest border region and undercutting smugglers who charge migrants to get there.

Migrants are now essentially barred from seeking asylum in the U.S. if they did not first apply online or seek protection in the countries they traveled through. Families allowed in as their immigration cases progress will face curfews and GPS monitoring. Those expelled can now be barred from reentry for five years and face possible criminal prosecution.

Across the river from El Paso, Texas, in Ciudad Juárez, Mexico, many migrants watched their cellphones in hopes of getting a coveted appointment to seek entry. The official app to register to enter the United States underwent changes this week, as it offers appointments for migrants to enter through land crossings.

Many migrants in northern Mexico resigned themselves to waiting for an appointment rather than approaching the



Venezuelan migrants wave a U.S. flag at a television helicopter that flew over the Rio Grande, in Matamoros, Mexico, Friday, May 12, 2023, a day after pandemic-related asylum restrictions called Title 42 were lifted.

border without authorization.

"I hope it's a little better and that the appointments are streamlined a little more," said Jeremy Depablos, 21, a Venezuelan traveling with seven cousins who has been waiting in Ciudad Juárez for a month. Fearing deportation, Depablos did not want to cross illegally. "We have to do it the legal way."

The U.S. Homeland Security Department said it has not witnessed any substantial in-

crease in immigration.

But in southern Mexico, migrants including children still flocked to railways at Huehuetoca on Friday, desperate to clamor aboard freight trains heading north toward the U.S.

The legal pathways touted by the Biden administration consist of a program that permits up to 30,000 people a month from Haiti, Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela to enter if they apply online with a financial sponsor and

enter through an airport.

About 100 processing centers are opening in Guatemala, Colombia and elsewhere for migrants to apply to go to the U.S., Spain or Canada. Up to 1,000 can enter daily through land crossings with Mexico if they secure an appointment on the app.

If it works, the system could fundamentally alter how mi-

grants come to the southern border. But Biden, who is running for reelection, faces withering criticism from migrant advocates, who say he's abandoning more humanitarian methods, and from Republicans, who claim he's soft on border security. Two legal challenges already loom over the new asylum restrictions.

Title 42 was initiated in

March 2020 and allowed border officials to quickly deport asylum seekers on grounds of preventing the spread of COVID-19. But with the national emergency officially over, the restrictions have ended.

While Title 42 prevented many from seeking asylum, it carried no legal consequences for expulsion like those under the new rules.

In El Paso on Friday, a few dozen migrants lingered outside Sacred Heart Catholic Church and shelter, on streets where nearly 2,000 migrants were camped as recently as Tuesday.

The Rev. Daniel Mora said most of the migrants took heed of flyers distributed by U.S. immigration authorities offering a "last chance" to submit to processing and left. El Paso Mayor Oscar Leeser said that 1,800 migrants turned themselves over to Customs and Border Protection on Thursday.

Melissa López, executive director for Diocesan Migrant and Refugee Services at El Paso, said many migrants have been willing to follow the legal pathway created by the federal government, but there are fears about deportation and possible criminal penalties for crossing the border illegally.

Border holding facilities in the U.S. were already far beyond capacity in the run-up to Title 42's expiration.

Trump appealing jury's sexual abuse verdict and \$5M award

NEW YORK (AP)—Former President Donald Trump is appealing a New York jury's verdict awarding \$5 million to a magazine columnist after the jurors concluded Trump had sexually abused her in the 1990s and defamed her last October.

A notice of appeal was filed Thursday in Manhattan federal court, the first step in a process that will move the civil case brought against Trump by writer E. Jean Carroll to a three-judge panel of the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

The notice was signed by Trump attorney Joe Tacopina, who said after Tuesday's verdict that he believed there were multiple strong grounds for appeal.

The nine-person jury concluded after less than three hours of deliberations that Carroll had failed to prove it was more likely than not that Trump had raped her

in the dressing room of a Bergdorf Goodman store in early spring 1996. But it did find that she had been sexually abused.

It also said in its verdict that Trump defamed Carroll in a social media statement last October.

Carroll sued Trump in November minutes after a temporary New York state law took effect allowing sexual attack victims to sue their abusers even if the abuse occurred decades earlier.

In the notice of appeal filed in the lower court Thursday where Judge Lewis A. Kaplan presided over the trial, Trump's lawyers wrote that "notice is hereby given that Defendant Donald J. Trump appeals" to the 2nd Circuit.

Asked for comment, Tacopina said in an email: "Judge Kaplan has been overturned once already in Carroll v. Trump. We are confident it will be twice af-

ter this appeal is heard."

He was referencing Kaplan's rejection of an attempt to substitute the United States for Trump as the defendant in an earlier defamation lawsuit filed by Carroll for statements Trump made while he was president. The 2nd Circuit later ruled that Trump was an employee of the government for purposes of the lawsuit, but the appeal has not been fully resolved.

A lawyer for Carroll did not immediately respond to messages seeking comment.

The verdict was returned after a two-week trial in which Carroll testified that Trump sexually attacked her in the luxury department store's dressing room after a lighthearted and flirtatious chance encounter that took them from the store's entrance to the desolate sixth floor lingerie area, where Trump invited Carroll to help him shop for a gift.

Early heat wave in Pacific Northwest could break records

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—An early May heat wave this weekend could surpass daily records in parts of the Pacific Northwest and worsen wildfires already burning in western Canada, a historically temperate region that has grappled with scorching summer temperatures and unprecedented wildfires fueled by climate change in recent years.

"We're looking at record-breaking temperatures," said Miles Higa, meteorologist at the National Weather Service's Portland office, describing the warmth as "unusual for this time of year."

The unseasonal high temperatures could further flame the dozens of fires burning in Canada's western Alberta province, where officials have ordered evacuations and declared a state of emergency. Residents and officials in the Northwest have been trying to adjust to the likely reality of longer, hotter heat waves following the deadly "heat dome" weather phenomenon in 2021 that prompted record temperatures and deaths

across the region.

The National Weather Service issued a heat advisory Friday lasting from Saturday through Monday for much of the western parts of both Oregon and Washington state. It said the temperatures could raise the risk of heat-related illness, particularly for those who are dehydrated or don't have effective cooling.

Temperatures in Portland, Oregon, are expected to hover around 94 F (34.4 C) throughout the weekend, according to the website of the National Weather Service office there. The current daily temperature records for May 13 and 14 stand at 92 F (33.3 C) and 91 F (32.8 C), dating from 1973 and 2014, respectively.

Elizabeth Romero and her three children were among those cooling off at a fountain in downtown Portland on Friday afternoon.

"We decided to stop by ... until we all feel better," she said, adding that she plans to seek out shaded parks during the weekend.

Temperatures in the Seattle

area could also meet or surpass daily records, according to National Weather Service meteorologist Jacob DeFlitch. The mercury could near 85 F (29.4 C) on Saturday and reach into the low 90s (32.2 C) on Sunday, he said.

King County, home to Seattle, directed transportation operators such as bus drivers to let people ride for free if they're seeking respite from the heat or heading to a cooling center. The county's regional homeless authority said several cooling and day centers will be open across the county.

Authorities also urged people to be wary of cold water temperatures, should they be tempted to take a river or lake swim to cool off.

"Rivers are still running cold. We have snow melting and temperatures ... probably in the low- to mid-40s (4.4 to 7.2 C) right now," National Weather Service meteorologist Higa said. "You're nice and warm and jump into the cold water—that could pose a risk to getting cold water shock."

Asia

PH ex-justice secretary is acquitted of drug charges



Detained former opposition Sen. Leila de Lima, center, reacts as she goes out of the Muntinlupa trial court on Friday, May 12, 2023 in Muntinlupa, Philippines.

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A former Philippine opposition senator and justice secretary was acquitted of drug charges Friday after key witnesses recanted and said they had lied about her involvement in narcotics trafficking.

Leila de Lima, 63, remained jailed, however, as she has one outstanding charge against her.

De Lima has been detained since 2017 on drug charges she says were fabricated by former President Rodrigo Duterte and his officials in an attempt to muzzle her criticism of his deadly crackdown on illegal drugs. His campaign left thousands of mostly petty suspects dead and sparked an International Criminal Court investigation as a possible crime against humanity.

Duterte, who has insisted on de Lima's guilt, left office last June at the end of his turbulent six-year term.

bulent six-year term.

Trial court judge Abraham Alcantara said in his ruling that a former senior police official's recantation led to his decision to acquit de Lima.

"Without his testimony, the crucial link to establish conspiracy is shrouded with reasonable doubt," he wrote, "which warrants the acquittal."

As supporters surrounded her police escort and chanted "free Leila de Lima" outside the court, she said she felt vindicated.

"Answered prayers, this is a glorious day, this is the beginning of my vindication. May I say this to my oppressors: You can never crucify the truth," she said as she was surrounded by police.

Prosecution witness Rafael Ragos, a former head of the Bureau of Corrections, retracted a claim to have delivered money from drug lords to de Lima and

said he had been forced by government officials to make it.

De Lima said through her attorney that she was looking forward to her full acquittal on all charges. She has been held in pretrial detention since her arrest without any convictions.

"I have no doubt from the very beginning that I will be acquitted from all the cases the Duterte regime has fabricated against me based on the merits and strength of my innocence. That's already two cases down and one more to go," she said in a statement read out by lawyer, Boni F. Tacardon.

"I am of course happy that with this second acquittal in the three cases filed against me, my release from more than six years of persecution draws nearer. I am extremely grateful to those who stood by and prayed for me all these years," she added.

Japan: China, Russia increasing military collaboration

STOCKHOLM (AP)—Japanese Foreign Minister Yoshimasa Hayashi expressed concern Saturday about Russian and Chinese military cooperation in Asia and said the security situation in Europe could not be separated from that in the Indo-Pacific region since Moscow's full-scale invasion of Ukraine.

Speaking at a meeting of European and Indo-Pacific foreign ministers in Sweden, Hayashi said Russia's war in Ukraine had "shaken the very foundation of the international order" and must face a united response by the international community.

"Otherwise, similar challenges will arise in other regions and the existing order which has underpinned our peace and prosperity could be fundamentally overturned," Hayashi said.

Japan firmly backs Ukraine

in the war but China says it remains neutral while declaring a "no limits" relationship with Moscow and blaming the U.S. and NATO for provoking the conflict. Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida visited the Ukrainian capital, Kyiv, in March at the same time as Chinese President Xi Jinping met Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin in Moscow.

Hayashi accused Beijing of "continuing and intensifying its unilateral attempts" to change the status quo in the East and South China seas by force and increasing its military activities around Taiwan.

"In addition, China and Russia are strengthening their military collaboration, including joint flights of their bombers and joint naval exercises in the vicinity of Japan," Hayashi said.

China, which claims most of the South China Sea as well as Japanese-held islands in the East China Sea, says it has the right to defend its sovereignty and development interests.

Hayashi also warned that North Korea was "escalating provocations" in the region by conducting ballistic missile launches "with a frequency and in a manner that are unprecedented."

He joined dozens of ministers from the European Union and the Indo-Pacific region for the meeting just north of the Swedish capital. China was not invited to the talks.

"Since the aggression of Russia to Ukraine, the security situation here in Europe and the security situation in the Pacific are not separable," Hayashi said as he arrived.

World

Israel, Islamic Jihad OK cease-fire

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP)—Israel and the Islamic Jihad militant group in the Gaza Strip agreed to an Egyptian-brokered cease-fire late Saturday, seeking to halt five days of intense fighting that killed 33 Palestinians, including at least 13 civilians. Two people in Israel were killed by rocket fire.

The tenuous cease-fire appeared to take effect just after 10 p.m., with a last-minute burst of rocket fire and Israeli airstrikes stretching several minutes past the deadline announced by Egypt. Late Saturday, Israel reported additional incoming fire and said it was again striking in Gaza. But the calm appeared to be quickly restored.

While the calm appeared to bring a sense of relief to Gaza's more than 2 million people and hundreds of thousands of Israelis who had been largely confined to bomb shelters in recent days, the agreement did nothing to address the underlying issues that have fueled numerous rounds of fighting between Israel and Palestinian militant groups in the Gaza Strip over the years.

In Gaza, Islamic Jihad spokesman Tareq Selmi said Israel had agreed to halt its policy of targeted strikes on the group's leaders. "Any stupidity or assassination by the occupation will be met with a response and the Zionist enemy bears the responsibility," he said.

But in a statement thanking Egypt for its mediation

efforts, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's national security adviser, Tzachi Nanegbi, said that "quiet would be answered with quiet" and Israel would do "everything that it needs to in order to defend itself."

Tensions could quickly resume next week when Israel holds a contentious march through a main Palestinian thoroughfare in Jerusalem's Old City.

Still, as the truce took hold, the deafening whooshes of outgoing rockets and booms of Israeli airstrikes were replaced by the honking of cars in Gaza. Streets that had been desolate in recent days quickly teemed with people reveling in the ceasefire, waving Palestinian flags and flashing victory signs from speeding vehicles. Amid the celebration, a fruit vendor used a loudspeaker, enthusiastically promoting his supply of bananas.

The latest violence erupted Tuesday when Israeli airstrikes killed three senior Islamic Jihad commanders. Israel said the airstrikes were in response to a burst of rocket fire the previous week and that its attacks have been focused on Islamic Jihad targets. But residents in Gaza said homes of people uninvolved in fighting also had been struck.

At least 10 civilians, including women, young children and uninvolved neighbors were killed in those initial strikes, which drew regional condemnation.

Over the past few days, Israel has conducted more airstrikes, killing other senior Islamic Jihad commanders and destroying their command centers and rocket-launching sites. But the airstrikes showed no signs of stopping the rocket fire, prompting Islamic Jihad to declare victory.

Israel reported over 1,200 launches throughout the fighting, with some rockets reaching as far as the Tel Aviv and Jerusalem areas. Israel said about a quarter of the rockets were misfired and landed in Gaza, while most of the rest were either intercepted or landed in open areas. But an 80-year-old woman and a Palestinian laborer who was working inside Israel were killed by rocket fire. A Palestinian human rights group said three people, including two children, were killed in Gaza by errant rockets.

It was the latest in a long series of battles between Israel and Palestinian militants in Gaza since the Islamic militant group Hamas seized control of the seaside territory in 2007. Israel and Hamas have fought four wars, and there have been numerous smaller flareups as well.

Saturday's deal did not address many of the many of the causes of the repeated fighting, including Israel's ongoing blockade of Gaza, the large arsenals of weapons possessed by Hamas and Islamic Jihad and Israeli policies in the occupied West Bank and east Jerusalem.

WORLD BRIEFS

Kenya cult death toll hits 200, with more than 600 reported missing

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP)—The death toll linked to a doomsday cult in Kenya hit 201 Saturday after police exhumed 22 more bodies, most of them bearing signs of starvation, according to the coast regional commissioner. The bodies are believed to be those of followers of a pastor based in coastal Kenya, Paul Mackenzie. He's alleged to have ordered congregants to starve to death in order to meet Jesus. More than 600 people are still missing. Mackenzie, who was arrested last month, remains in custody. Police plan to charge him with terrorism-related offenses. Hundreds of bodies have been dug up from dozens of mass graves spread across his 800-acre property, located in the coastal county of Kilifi. Mackenzie insists that he closed his church in 2019 and moved to his property in a forested area to farm. Autopsies conducted

on more than 100 bodies last week showed the victims died of starvation, strangulation, suffocation and injuries sustained from blunt objects.

Ukraine's Zelenskyy arrives in Berlin to meet German leaders

BERLIN (AP)—Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy arrived in Berlin early Sunday for talks with German leaders about further arms deliveries to help his country fend off the Russian invasion and rebuild what's been destroyed by more than a year of devastating conflict. A Luftwaffe jet flew Zelenskyy to the German capital from Rome, where he had met Saturday with Pope Francis and Italian Premier Giorgia Meloni. On the eve of his arrival—which took place amid tight security—the German government announced a new package of military aid for Ukraine with aid worth more than 2.7 billion euros

(\$3 billion), including tanks, anti-aircraft systems and ammunition. "Already in Berlin. Weapons. Powerful package. Air defense. Reconstruction. EU. NATO. Security," Zelenskyy tweeted Sunday, in an apparent reference to the key priorities of his trip. After initially hesitating to provide Ukraine with lethal weapons, Germany has become one of the biggest suppliers of arms to Ukraine, including Leopard 1 and 2 battle tanks, and the sophisticated IRIS-T SLM air-defense system. Modern Western hardware is considered crucial if Ukraine is to succeed in its planned counteroffensive against Russian troops. After meeting Chancellor Olaf Scholz and other senior officials at the chancellery, the two leaders are expected to fly to the western city of Aachen for Zelenskyy to receive the International Charlemagne Prize awarded to him and the people of Ukraine.

Health & Wellness

Skin cancer survivors: How to stay safe in the sunshine

By **SONYA GOINS**
MAYO CLINIC NEWS NETWORK

For many people, playing and relaxing in the sun is fun. But for skin cancer survivors, the sun can be a source of fear and anxiety. That's because sun exposure is one of the most significant risk factors for developing skin cancer. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, skin cancer is the most common type of cancer in the U.S.

Skin cancer survivors often feel stress and anxiety

People who have previously fought skin cancer may find themselves on pins and needles, worrying about cancer recurrence. Dr. Dawn Davis, a Mayo Clinic dermatologist, says skin cancer survivors don't have to shun the sun, but they should take some precautions.

"The dermatologists would like for all patients to be sun safe and sun smart, and it does not mean that if you've had a melanoma or skin cancer diagnosis that you need to avoid sunlight," says Dr. Davis.

She says it's a good idea to avoid exposure to direct sunlight for prolonged peri-

ods and stay away from artificial UV radiation.

"We educate our patients about sunscreen use and photoprotective measures about avoiding peak times of sunlight, such as 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., avoiding tanning beds and other carcinogens," explains Dr. Davis.

She says it is crucial for former skin cancer patients visit a dermatologist for a full skin examination.

"A patient with a skin cancer or melanoma should be followed for routine follow-ups for melanomas approximately every three to six months for the first three to five years after

their melanoma diagnosis has occurred," says Dr. Davis.

Health experts say it's important for survivors to not let a previous skin cancer diagnosis dictate how they live their lives.

"I want my patients with skin cancer to lead happy, healthy, active and normal lives doing all the hobbies, jobs and activities of daily living that they did prior to their diagnosis," says Dr. Davis.

Sun protection tips

Dr. Davis says there are several things you can do to protect yourself from the sun, including wearing protective clothing, and wearing sunglasses. She also recommends people



DREAMSTIME/TNS

Sunscreen can help protect the skin from sunburn and skin cancer—but only if used correctly.

use sunscreen with a sun protection factor, or SPF, of at least 30. She says it will help

to protect against harmful UV rays and reduce the risk of skin cancer.

MAYO CLINIC MINUTE

Melanoma misconception—dark skin tones at risk, too

By **SONYA GOINS**
MAYO CLINIC NEWS NETWORK

The myth that people with dark skin are immune to melanoma, a type of skin cancer, has persisted for many years. It's a dangerous misconception that has caused some people not to be diligent about protecting themselves against dangerous UV rays.

Dr. Dawn Davis, a Mayo Clinic dermatologist, says people with darker skin

tones need to be vigilant about sun protection.

"Melanin is the protein component of the skin that gives our skin color," says Dr. Davis.

Darker skin tones have more melanin. The pigment protects against sun damage and lowers the risk of skin cancer. Some people with dark complexions think melanin shields them from getting cancer. But Dr. Davis says that's a myth.

"All patients, including pa-

tients who are skin of color, have a risk of melanoma. Children can also have melanoma," explains Dr. Davis.

When melanoma develops in people of color, it's often diagnosed at a later stage and is more aggressive. But that could be because skin cancer in people with darker skin may appear in unexposed areas.

"Under your armpits, in your genital area, under your nails, fingernails and toenails, and on the palms and soles," says Dr. Davis.

Dr. Davis says people of color, including children, should wear sunscreen and perform regular skin self-exams.

How to reduce the risk of melanoma

The longer you're exposed to the sun, the greater the risk for developing skin cancer. Dr. Davis says there are several things people can do to protect their skin:

- Wear sunscreen of at least 30 SPF.
- Perform regular skin self-exams.
- See a health professional for abnormal growths or warts.
- Wear protective clothing.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The myth that people with dark skin are immune to melanoma, a type of skin cancer, has persisted for many years.

FDA eases blood donation policy restrictions for gay, bisexual men

By **MURI ASSUNÇÃO**
NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is changing its blood donation policy and easing restrictions for gay and bisexual men who want to donate blood, health officials said Thursday.

The updated policy—which was initially proposed in January and is based on scientific evidence and policies already in place in countries including the United Kingdom and Canada—changes the screening process for blood donation to include the same set of questions for all potential donors, independent of their sexual orientation, sex or gender.

The announcement follows years of campaigning by LGBTQ+ and HIV/AIDS rights advocates, who have urged the FDA to end its "antiquated and discriminatory" policy.

"This new policy ends a decades-old ban rooted in discrimination and bias," Kelley Robinson, president of the Human Rights Campaign, said in a statement shared with the New York Daily News.

Prior to Friday's announcement, men who have sex with men (MSM)—and women who have sex with MSM—

who wanted to donate blood were required to answer a set of specific questions simply because of their sexual orientation. The new update requires anyone who wants to donate blood to answer a series of individual, risk-based questions to determine eligibility.

Potential blood donors who report having either a new sexual partner or more than one sexual relation in the past three months; or those who reported having anal sex in the past three months, "would be deferred to reduce the likelihood of donations by individuals with new or recent HIV infection." Officials say this is because such infections might not be detectable by an HIV test.

"The implementation of these recommendations will represent a significant milestone for the agency and the LGBTQ+ community," said Peter Mark, director of the FDA's Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research—though it might not go far enough for some.

According to the updated policy, people on antiretroviral therapy—who can't transmit the virus to others after achieving an undetectable viral load—are deferred from donating.

That's because even though "HIV is not transmitted sexually by individuals with undetectable viral levels, this does not apply to transfusion transmission of HIV," the agency said.

Those on HIV prevention medication, or PrEP, an FDA-approved drug that reduces the risk of contracting HIV by about 99%, are also deferred from donating. Sarah Kate Ellis, president and CEO of GLAAD, says this stipulation "adds unnecessary stigma (which could) cost lives."

Ellis celebrated the FDA announcement as a "step in the right direction," but said the deferral period for individuals on PrEP "continues to erect barriers to LGBTQ blood donors."

"GLAAD urges the FDA to continue to prioritize science over stigma and treat all donors and all blood equally," she said in a statement shared on social media.

HRC's Robinson agreed, saying the announcement was a victory, yet "real obstacles are going to remain."

"We're calling on the federal government to make further investments in research and technology to open opportunities for all Americans to become blood donor," she said.

Does expired sunscreen still work?

By **LAUREL KELLY**
MAYO CLINIC NEWS NETWORK

May is Skin Cancer Awareness Month, which makes this a good time to check the expiration date on last year's sunscreen.

It's that time of year when everyone's looking forward to some fun in the sun. Too much sun can be dangerous, though. Exposure to UV radiation from the sun damages your skin, and children are especially vulnerable because they tend to spend more time out-

doors and can burn easily.

Skin damage from the sun increases your risk of developing:

•Skin cancer: Skin cancer develops primarily on areas of sun-exposed skin, including the scalp, face, lips, ears, neck, chest, arms, hands and legs. Skin cancer affects people of all skin tones, including those with darker complexions. Skin cancer occurs when mutations occur in the DNA of skin cells. Much of the damage to DNA in skin cells results from UV radiation found in sunlight and in the

lights used in tanning beds.

■ Wrinkles: Although genetics mainly determine skin structure and texture, sun exposure is a major cause of wrinkles, especially for people with light skin. Exposure to UV light breaks down your skin's connective tissue—collagen and elastin fibers, which lie in the deeper layer of skin. Without the supportive connective tissue, your skin loses strength and flexibility. Skin then begins to sag and wrinkle prematurely.

■ Age spots: Age spots are

caused by overactive pigment cells. UV light speeds up the production of melanin, a natural pigment that gives skin its color. On skin that has had years of sun exposure, age spots appear when melanin becomes clumped or is produced in high concentrations. Use of commercial tanning lamps and beds also can cause age spots.

One way to protect your skin is to use a broad-spectrum sunscreen with a sun protection factor, or SPF, of at least 30, even on cloudy days. Apply sunscreen generously, and reapply every two hours—or more often if you're swimming

or perspiring. Use a generous amount of sunscreen on all exposed skin, including your lips, the tips of your ears, and the backs of your hands and neck.

Sunscreens are required by the Food and Drug Administration to remain at their original strength for at least three years. This means that you can use leftover sunscreen from one year to the next. Some sunscreens include an expiration date—a date indicating when they're no longer effective. Discard sunscreen that is past its expiration date. If you buy sunscreen that doesn't have an expiration date, write

the date of purchase on the bottle. Throw out the bottle when three years have passed since the purchase date.

In addition to sunscreen, avoid sun exposure in the middle of the day when the UV rays are strongest, wear sunglasses that block both types of UV radiation—UVA and UVB rays—and wear a broad-brimmed hat and other protective clothing.

Exercising and enjoying time outdoors are important for good health. Staying protected from the sun will allow you and your family to do so safely.

Life & Style

Swedish singer Loreen wins Eurovision Song Contest for 2nd time

LIVERPOOL, England (AP)—Swedish singer Loreen won the Eurovision Song Contest on Saturday night with her power ballad “Tattoo,” at a colorful, eclectic music competition clouded for

a second year running by the war in Ukraine.

The diva from Stockholm beat acts from 25 other countries to take the continent’s pop crown at the final of the competition in Liverpool.

Finnish singer Käärijä was second in a close-fought battle of the Nordic neighbors.

Loreen, 39, previously won Eurovision in 2012 and is only the second performer to take the prize twice, after Ireland’s



Loreen of Sweden celebrates with the trophy after winning the Grand Final of the Eurovision Song Contest in Liverpool, England, Saturday, May 13, 2023. AP

Vatican experts uncovering gilded glory of Hercules statue

VATICAN CITY (AP)—Scaffolding in a niche of the Vatican Museums’ Round Hall conceal from view the work of restorers who are removing centuries of grime from the largest known bronze statue of the ancient world: the gilded Hercules Mastai Righetti.

For more than 150 years, the four-meter-tall (13-foot-tall) figure of the half-human Roman god of strength has stood in that niche, barely garnering notice among other antiquities because of the dark coating it had acquired.

But it was only after removing a layer of wax and other material from a 19th-century restoration that Vatican experts understood the statue’s true splendor as one of the most significant gilded statues of its time. Museum-goers will be able to see its grandeur for themselves once the restoration is finished, which is expected in December.

“The original gilding is exceptionally well-preserved, especially for the consistency and homogeneity,” Vatican Museum restorer Alice Baltera said.

The discovery of the colossal bronze statue in 1864 during work on a banker’s villa near Rome’s



Vatican Museum restorer Alice Baltera works on the bronze Hercules statue, in the Round Hall of the Vatican Museums, Thursday, May 11, 2023. Work will continue until December to reveal the 4-meter- (13-foot-) tall Hercules, believed to have stood in ancient Rome’s Pompey Theater, to its original golden sheen. AP

Campo dei Fiori square made global headlines.

Visitors drawn to the ancient wonder at the time included Pope Pius IX, who later added the work to the papal collection. The statue depicting Hercules after he finished his labors had the last names of the pope—Mastai—and of the banker, Pietro Righetti, added to its title.

The statue has been variously dated from the end of the first to the beginning of the third centuries. Even in its day, the towering Hercules was treated with reverence.

The inscription FCS accompanying the statue on a slab of travertine marble in-

icates it was struck by lightning, according to Claudia Valeri, curator of the Vatican Museums department of Greek and Roman antiquities. As a result, it was buried in a marble shrine according to Roman rites that saw lightning as an expression of divine forces.

FCS stands for “fulgur conditum summanium, a Latin phrase meaning “Here is buried a Summanian thunderbolt.” Summanus was the ancient Roman god of nocturnal thunder. The ancient Romans believed that not only was any object stricken imbued with divinity, but also the spot where it was hit and buried.

Johnny Logan in the 1980s. It’s Sweden’s seventh Eurovision victory, matching Ireland’s record.

“I am seriously overwhelmed,” Loreen said. “This is so beautiful.”

She said returning to the contest that helped make her a star was “like coming back to a family. We’ve had an 11-year-long relationship. We know each other by now.”

Britain hosted Eurovision on behalf of Ukraine, which won last year but couldn’t take up its right to hold the contest because of the war. Air raid sirens sounded across Ukraine as the contest was underway, and Ukrainian media reported a strike in Ternopil, home town of Ukraine’s Eurovision entry, Tvorchy.

Under the slogan “united by music,” Eurovision final fused the soul of the Eng-

lish port city that birthed The Beatles with the spirit of war-battered Ukraine.

The sights and sounds of Ukraine ran through the show, starting with an opening film that showed 2022 Eurovision winners Kalush Orchestra singing and dancing in the Kyiv subway, with the tune picked up by musicians in the U.K.—including Kate, Princess of Wales, shown playing the piano.

The folk-rap band itself then emerged onstage in the Liverpool Arena on a giant pair of outstretched hands, accompanied by massed drummers.

Contestants from the 26 finalist nations entered the arena in an Olympics-style flag parade, accompanied by live performances from Ukrainian acts including Go A, Jamala, Tina Karol and Verka Serduchka—all past

Eurovision competitors.

Now in its 67th year, Eurovision bills itself as the world’s biggest music contest—an Olympiad of party-friendly pop. Competitors each have three minutes to meld catchy tunes and eye-popping spectacle into performances capable of winning the hearts of millions of viewers.

Loreen’s anthem of intense love had been the bookies’ favorite and won by far the most votes from professional juries in Eurovision’s complex voting system. She faced a strong challenge from Käärijä, a wildly energetic performer whose rap-pop party anthem “Cha Cha Cha” won the public vote.

Israel’s Noa Kirel came in third with power-pop anthem “Unicorn,” while Italy’s Marco Mengoni was fourth with his ballad “Due Vite” (Two Lives).

Man expects girlfriend to be present constantly

DEAR ABBY: I’m 42 and my guy friend is 59. He’s a wonderful person and a great provider. I’ve known him for about a year now, but he seems a bit controlling. He wants me around seven days a week and expects me to be this submissive woman that I’m not. I’m very independent. I always earned my way in life with little to no help at all.

I’m not perfect. I admit I can be a little confusing at times. But his constant complaining about how I’m not there confuses me. When I come over and hang out and spend time with him, he pushes me away and says it is my fault. Mind you, I have a 7-year-old daughter. I like him a lot, but he tends to be too much. Should I let it go or try to find some common ground and work things out?

CONFUSED IN THE SOUTH

DEAR CONFUSED: I would vote for the former. Because you have a young daughter to care for, you cannot be at this “wonderful” high-maintenance man’s beck and call 24/7. If you can convey that to him, it may save the relationship. However, if he can’t accept reality, you are better off moving on without him. You need a partner who is prepared to accept you for who you actually are rather than who he wants you to be.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: My brother passed away six months ago.

With difficulty, I am coping. We were very close. Our birthdays were four days apart, and we enjoyed many celebrations together over the years.

My birthday is coming up and I’m dreading the day. Worse than being sad is pretending that I’m not. My immediate family understands I don’t want any cards or “Happy Birthday” greetings. Would it be appropriate for me to contact people before the day and ask them not to send cards or gifts? I cringe at the thought of any celebration this year, or having to thank people for the attention. Can I throw any cards I receive in the trash? It’s my party, and I’ll cry if I want to.

SURVIVING SIS IN THE WEST

DEAR SIS: Considering your loss, there’s nothing inappropriate about telling friends and family you do not want to celebrate this upcoming birthday. Tell your closest friends and family members what your wishes are, and post it on the internet as well. If you receive anything after that, you are free to do with it whatever you wish, including donating or trashing it.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: Every time I leave the house, my wife needs a play-by-play as to where I am going, how long I’ll be away, etc. Years ago, I used to be a player, but age has caught

DEAR ABBY

By Abigail Van Buren
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



up with me. Advice?

GETTING FRUSTRATED IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR GETTING FRUSTRATED: I find it disappointing that you have only stopped cheating because time, and not your conscience, finally caught up with you. Tell your wife what she needs to know. It’s the price you are paying to regain your credibility and her trust.

■■■

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in “The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It.” To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

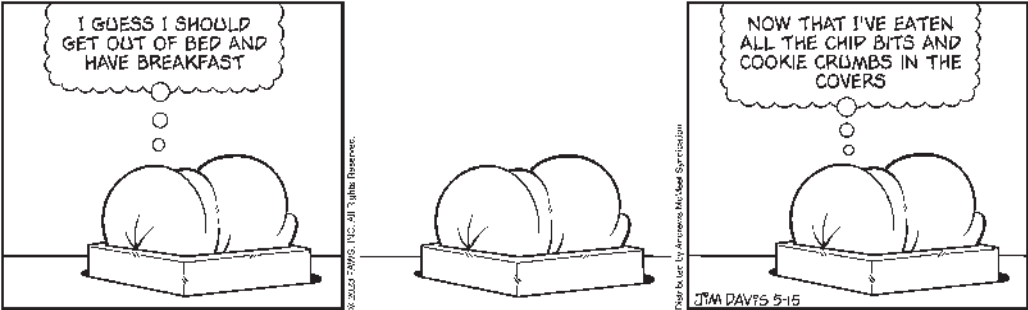
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Read quickly

5 Entreat

8 Ella's style

12 Stance

13 Musician

14 Wheeling's river

15 Sleep like —

16 Built to last

18 Tennis star Nadal

20 Dreaded

21 Wilson's predecessor

23 Boxer Laila

24 Guaranteed

28 AOL and MSN

31 Swiss canton

32 Kagan of the Supreme Court

34 Witticism

35 Disorder

DOWN

1 Mast

2 Soda

3 Dating from

4 Cancel out

5 Oatmeal

6 Compass

7 Driving sport

8 East African

9 Magnetism

10 Staffer

11 Three-sloth

17 Salonga of "Miss Saigon"

19 Lighten

22 Grove units

24 Silent

25 "— you awake?"

26 Loosen

27 Spices up

29 Group of seals

30 Canonized Fr. woman

33 Roundish

36 Rill

38 Tune

40 —

42 Latin I word

43 Big wind

44 Winnow

46 Brown or Yale (Abbr.)

47 Coal source

48 Greek vowels

50 "Home-land" org.

101 HUMP GLAM

ERA INCA RARA

MAK SPAR ARBY

PLEASE TRI

MEN IAGREE

RASES NTH IVE

OILS PEA TAIL

ADA CAW SALES

DEVOUR RIP

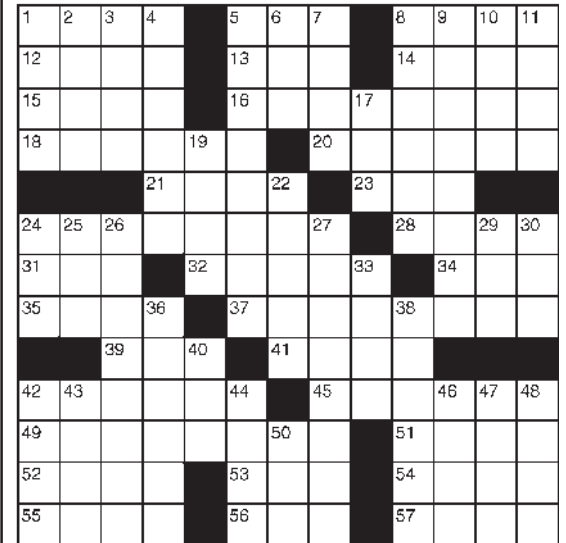
BBO ARISES

SARI UNDERPAR

ULOI LBAN USO

ALBS TARS RTS

Last Friday's Answer 05/15



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Alexandra Breckenridge, 41; Jamie-Lynn Sigler, 42; David Krumholtz, 45; Chazz Palminteri, 71.

Happy Birthday: Use your insight and imagination to take you to a place that fulfills your dreams, hopes and wishes. Put your energy into checking off all the boxes on your to-do list. Taking care of unfinished business will lead to a clear passage forward. Friendships and romance will flourish through conversations, making plans and following through. Be honest to avoid emotional interference. Your numbers are 5, 17, 24, 29, 35, 41, 46.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): A creative spin to whatever you do will help you stand out in a crowd. Refuse to let anger replace common sense; channel your energy into something worthwhile and concrete. Don't let your emotions break down, causing tension with someone you love. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Change what you don't like and keep moving forward. Speak up and share your thoughts and feelings. The best way forward is to trust and believe in yourself and what you can achieve. An attitude change will point you in an exciting direction. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Check your options, be creative and take the road less traveled. Trust your instincts, abide by the rules and head for the destination of choice. Refuse to let your emotions or outside influences throw you off your game. Do what's best for you. ****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Take any opportunity to do something creative. You'll discover something interesting about yourself that will point you in a comfortable direction. Recognize what's real and what isn't when

dealing with mixed emotions and someone who is manipulative. **

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): A change someone makes will leave you in an awkward position. Look for alternatives to fill a void. Understanding what's trending will help you choose a better path. Pay attention to requirements and make yourself a blueprint for your subsequent pursuit. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Experience is your best learning tool. Be observant and watch those deemed as experts; you'll find the perfect vehicle to help you reach your goal. Emotional spending won't buy happiness, but spending valuable time with someone you love will. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Don't lose sight of your responsibilities. A to-do list will help you schedule your time around what's important to you. Dissolve sensitive issues involving money. Divvy up expenses and discuss your long-term intentions. Keep your personal life private to avoid interference. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Learning is apparent if you can control your emotions and focus on incorporating what you discover into your everyday responsibilities. Personal growth will help you see things differently and relate better to those you love. Don't overreact; get your facts straight. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Use your imagination, but don't embellish. A change of heart will leave you reevaluating your position and relationship with others. Attend an event that will broaden your perspective regarding possibilities. Make home improvements that promote better health. ****

EUGENIA LAST
THE LAST WORD
IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Listen, observe and act, but don't reveal too much in return. You'll gain momentum if you concentrate on getting things done and leave the chitchat to others. Take an unusual approach to whatever you pursue, and you'll be delighted with the outcome. **

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Concentrate on how you earn your living and plan to advance. Consider what you must do to be the best and how long it will take to reach your goal. Change what's necessary. Hold on to your strengths and improve your weaknesses. ***

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Dig in and don't stop until you are satisfied with the results. Use your skills purposefully, and you'll find a way to earn your living doing something you enjoy and do masterfully. Love is favored, and self-improvement projects will fetch compliments. ***

Birthday Baby: You are optimistic, thought-provoking and passionate. You are dedicated and persistent.

☾: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. **☼:** You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. **☼☼:** Focus and you'll reach your goals. **☼☼☼:** Aim high; start new projects. **☼☼☼☼:** Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green



Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Friday's Answer



Difficulty: ★ 5/15
©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

AN ANCIENT HUE AND CRY Solution: 5 letters



© 2013 Andrews McMeel Syndication www.ourwordgame.com 5/15
Action, Alarm, Alert, Arrest, Attention, Bystander, Capture, Case, Castle, Chase, Citizens, City, Community, Constable, Council, Court, Crime, Culprit, Deputy, Detail, Duty, Echo, English, Evidence, Felony, Guilty, Hero, Judge, Legal, Listen, Loud, Neighbor, Newspaper, Oath, Protest, Legal, Listen, Robbery, Shout, Town, Trap, Village, Voice, Witness
Last Friday's Answer: Energy Drink
The NEW Volume 70 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6480.

Judge homers twice, Yankees overcome 6-run deficit, beat Rays, 9-8



**N E W
Y O R K**
(A P) —
A a r o n

Judge hit a pair of two-run homers, Anthony Volpe broke Joe DiMaggio's Yankees record for consecutive stolen bases at the start of a career and New York rallied from a six-run deficit and beat the Tampa Bay Rays 9-8 on Saturday.

Judge found his stroke following an injured list stint caused by a sore hip and hit his first homers since April 19 for his 29th career multi-homer game.

Volpe is 13 for 13 in steal attempts, one more than DiMaggio from the start of his career until he was caught at home by Boston on Sept. 25, 1939.

Kyle Higashioka also had a two-run homer for the Yankees, and Orlando Cabrera added a two-run single. Jimmy Cordero (3-1) pitched 1 2/3 scoreless innings for the win.

Yandy Diaz hit his first career grand slam in Tampa Bay's five-run fifth and Randy Arozarena added a broken-bat, two-run single. Ryan Thompson (1-1) took the loss after Shane McClellan failed to hold a 6-0 lead.

RANGERS 5, ATHLETICS 0

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Jon Gray took a non-hitter into the seventh and finished with eight scoreless innings, Nathaniel Lowe homered to extend his hitting streak to 12 games, and Texas beat Oakland.

Ezequiel Duran also connected on a two-run homer in the ninth for the AL West-leading Rangers, who are 24-15 for their best mark through 39 games since going 25-14 in 2013.

Gray (3-1) retired 20 of the first 22 batters he faced and worked around a pair of walks while dominating the worst team in baseball. He set down the first two batters in the seventh before the light-hitting Jace Peterson slapped a single to right for the A's first hit.

John King worked the ninth inning for Texas to complete the five-hitter.

ORIOLES 2, PIRATES 0

BALTIMORE (AP)—Tyler Wells pitched seven innings of one-hit ball and Baltimore used homers by Adley Rutschman and Gunnar Henderson to beat slumping Pittsburgh and clinch its ninth series win in its last 10.

Wells (3-1) had a career-high eight strikeouts and walked two. Wells retired 17 straight before walking Carlos Santana, who had singled in the second, with two outs in the seventh.



New York Yankees' Aaron Judge is congratulated in the dugout after hitting a two-run home run in the sixth inning of a baseball game against Tampa Bay Rays, Saturday, May 13, 2023, in New York.

Yennier Cano and Félix Bautista completed the three-hitter. Bautista earned his 10th save in 13 chances.

Roansy Contreras (3-4) took the loss for Pittsburgh, which has dropped four in a row and 11 of 12.

DODGERS 4, PADRES 2

LOS ANGELES (AP)—J.D. Martinez hit a go-ahead three-run homer in the first inning, Julio Urias tossed seven strong innings and Los Angeles beat San Diego for its fourth straight victory.

The NL West leaders earned their fifth consecutive series win and have won 17 of their last 20 at Dodger Stadium.

Urias (5-3) allowed two runs and three hits in seven innings. The left-hander struck out four and walked none. Caleb Ferguson earned his first save of the season.

The Padres got solo homers by Juan Soto in the first and Ha-Seong Kim in the second off Urias, both with two outs. Joe Musgrove (1-1) took the loss as San Diego dropped its fourth in a row and fell for the sixth time in seven games.

GUARDIANS 8, ANGELS 6

CLEVELAND (AP)—Josh Naylor's three-run homer highlighted Cleveland's stunning comeback in the eighth inning in a win over Los Angeles.

Down 6-2, the Guardians scored six times in the eighth to pull off their most improbable win in a season. Andrés Giménez also homered in the eighth.

The Guardians strung together four straight singles with José Ramírez and Josh Bell driving in runs off reliever Andrew Wantz. Naylor then connected on an 0-1 pitch from Ryan Tepera (2-2).

Eli Morgan (2-0) pitched

one inning to get the win on his 27th birthday. Trevor Stephan earned his second save. retired Mike Trout and Shohei Ohtani to start the ninth before putting two runners on. The right-hander got Brandon Drury to ground out for his second save.

Mickey Moniak homered in his first at-bat this season and scored three runs for the Angels. Zach Neto hit a two-run homer for Los Angeles.

MARINERS 5, TIGERS 0

DETROIT (AP)—Rookie right-hander Bryce Miller shut down Detroit for seven innings as Seattle moved above .500 for the first time since a win on opening day.

Miller (2-0) allowed three hits, two in the first inning, and struck out three while walking none. Jarred Kelenic hit a two-run home run and Teoscar Hernández hit a solo homer. They are tied for the team lead with eight.

Alex Faedo (0-1), making his second start of the season and first career appearance against the Mariners, allowed three runs on four hits while walking one and striking out seven in his second start of the season and first against Seattle.

REDS 6, MARLINS 5

MIAMI (AP)—Jake Fraley hit a three-run shot for his third homer in two days as Cincinnati beat Sandy Alcantara and Miami.

Henry Ramos had two hits, including a go-ahead RBI double off Alcantara in the eighth. Reliever Ian Gibaut (3-0) earned the win and Alexis Diaz picked up his ninth save.

Alcantara (1-4) squandered two leads. He issued a leadoff walk in the eighth to Jonathan India, who stole second before Fraley's run-scoring single tied it at 4-all. Alcantara gave

up six runs, seven hits, struck out nine and walked two in 7 2/3 innings.

Miami's Bryan De La Cruz hit a solo shot, his third of the season, and Jazz Chisholm Jr. hit his seventh homer of the season, a solo shot in the seventh.

DIAMONDBACKS 7, GIANTS 2

PHOENIX (AP)—Rookie Dominic Fletcher hit a two-run homer and a go-ahead, bases-clearing triple for five RBIs, Zac Gallen pitched 7 2/3 strong innings and Arizona beat San Francisco.

Fletcher hit his first MLB homer on Friday and followed that with a clutch triple in the sixth inning on Saturday, ripping a line drive into the right-center gap that scored Josh Rojas, Ketel Marte and Christian Walker and pushed the D-backs up 4-1. Fletcher added a two-run homer in the eighth.

Gallen (6-1) gave up two runs on five hits, striking out six and walking two. He now has a 2.35 ERA.

Giants right-hander Anthony DeSclafani (3-3) gave up three runs. Casey Schmitt and Michael Conforto both had two hits for San Francisco.

BLUE JAYS 5, BRAVES 2

TORONTO (AP)—Bo Bichette singled home the tie-breaking run in the seventh inning and finished 2 for 4 with two RBIs as Toronto handed Atlanta its first series loss on the road this season.

The Blue Jays won their second straight over Atlanta, which had won six straight series away from home to start the season. Erik Swanson (2-1) got five outs for the win and Jordan Romano earned his 10th save in 12 chances.

Kevin Kiermaier had three hits and scored twice, and Whit Merrifield had three

stolen bases and an RBI for Toronto.

Atlanta's Marcell Ozuna hit a two-run homer in the second, his seventh. A.J. Minter (2-5) took the loss.

TWINS 11, CUBS 1

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Alex Kirilloff hit two of Minnesota's season-high five home runs in a rout over Chicago.

Joey Gallo, Jorge Polanco and Carlos Correa also homered for the Twins. Joe Ryan (6-1) got plenty of run support, striking out 10 in six scoreless innings, including striking out the side in the sixth.

Kirilloff, appearing in just his seventh game this season, opened the scoring with an opposite-field solo shot to left in the first. His second homer came three pitches after Gallo's towering drive to the second deck in right-center in the third. It was Kirilloff's third career multi-homer game and his first since July 5.

Cubs starter Hayden Wesneski (2-2) surrendered four of the Twins' homers in a game that was delayed at the start an hour and 21 minutes by rain.

CARDINALS 4, RED SOX 3

BOSTON (AP)—Kenley Jansen (1-2) blew a ninth-inning lead for the second straight day when shortstop Kiké Hernández's throwing error on a potential game-ending double play allowed Nolan Gorman to score the go-ahead run in a three-run ninth, lifting St. Louis over Boston.

The Red Sox wasted a stellar start by Chris Sale, who pitched eight innings of one-run ball in his longest outing since 2019. He struck out nine, giving up three hits with one walk, throwing 77 of his 110 pitches for strikes.

Nolan Arenado had a solo homer for St. Louis. Rob Refsnyder had a two-run double and three hits, and Rafael Devers added an RBI single for the Red Sox.

Andre Pallante (2-0) worked a scoreless inning for the win and Giovanny Gallegos earned his third save.

WHITE SOX 3, ASTROS 1

CHICAGO (AP)—Luis Robert Jr. homered and drove in two runs, and the Chicago White Sox beat the Houston Astros 3-1 on Saturday night.

Tim Anderson and Yoán Moncada each had three hits for the White Sox, who had lost three straight and four of five. Dylan Cease pitched six shutout innings.

Chicago went ahead to stay with two runs in the eighth against Rafael Montero (0-3). Moncada hit a leadoff double and scored on Robert's liner to right. Seby Zavala added a two-out RBI single for a 3-1 lead.

Joe Kelly (1-1) got four outs for the win, and Kendall Graveman worked the ninth for his second save.

Jeremy Peña had three of Houston's eight hits. The Astros had won three straight.

BREWERS 4, ROYALS 3

MILWAUKEE (AP)—Rookie Joey Wiemer's sacrifice fly with one out in the ninth inning gave Milwaukee a victory over Kansas City.

Christian Yelich homered twice for Milwaukee, with the second tying it at 3 in the sixth with a shot off Josh Taylor, who relieved starter Zack Greinke to begin the inning.

Brian Anderson opened the ninth with a single off Carlos Hernandez (0-1). Owen Miller's one-out double sent Anderson to third. Wiemer then sent an 0-1 pitch deep enough to center to easily score Anderson.

Devin Williams (3-0) got the victory with a perfect ninth.

Kansas City's Salvador Perez opened the fifth with his eighth homer.

PHILLIES 7, ROCKIES 4

DENVER (AP)—Ranger Suárez labored through four innings in his return from injury, Bryce Harper hit a two-run home run and Philadelphia beat Colorado in a game in which Rockies starter Ryan Feltner was struck in the head with a line drive.

On the mound for the Phillies for the first time since throwing five scoreless innings in Game 3 of last season's World Series, Suárez (2-0) gave up three runs and seven hits, including five doubles, while throwing 72 pitches. Gregory Soto earned his first save.

Harper hit his second homer since returning from Tommy John surgery off Pierce Johnson in the ninth as Philadelphia won a season-best fifth straight.

Feltner (2-3) took Nick Castellanos' 92.7 mph liner off the back right portion of his head with two outs in the second inning and immediately collapsed on the mound. He didn't appear to lose consciousness and was able to walk to the dugout with the assistance of two staff members.

Ryan McMahon and Jurickson Profar each had two doubles for the Rockies.

Heat embracing challenge, find way to return to ECF



MIAMI (AP)—Inside the Miami Heat locker room, now officially halfway to the season's ultimate goal, Erik Spoelstra stepped onto the NBA championship logo on the center of the floor and gathered his team around him.

His message was simple.

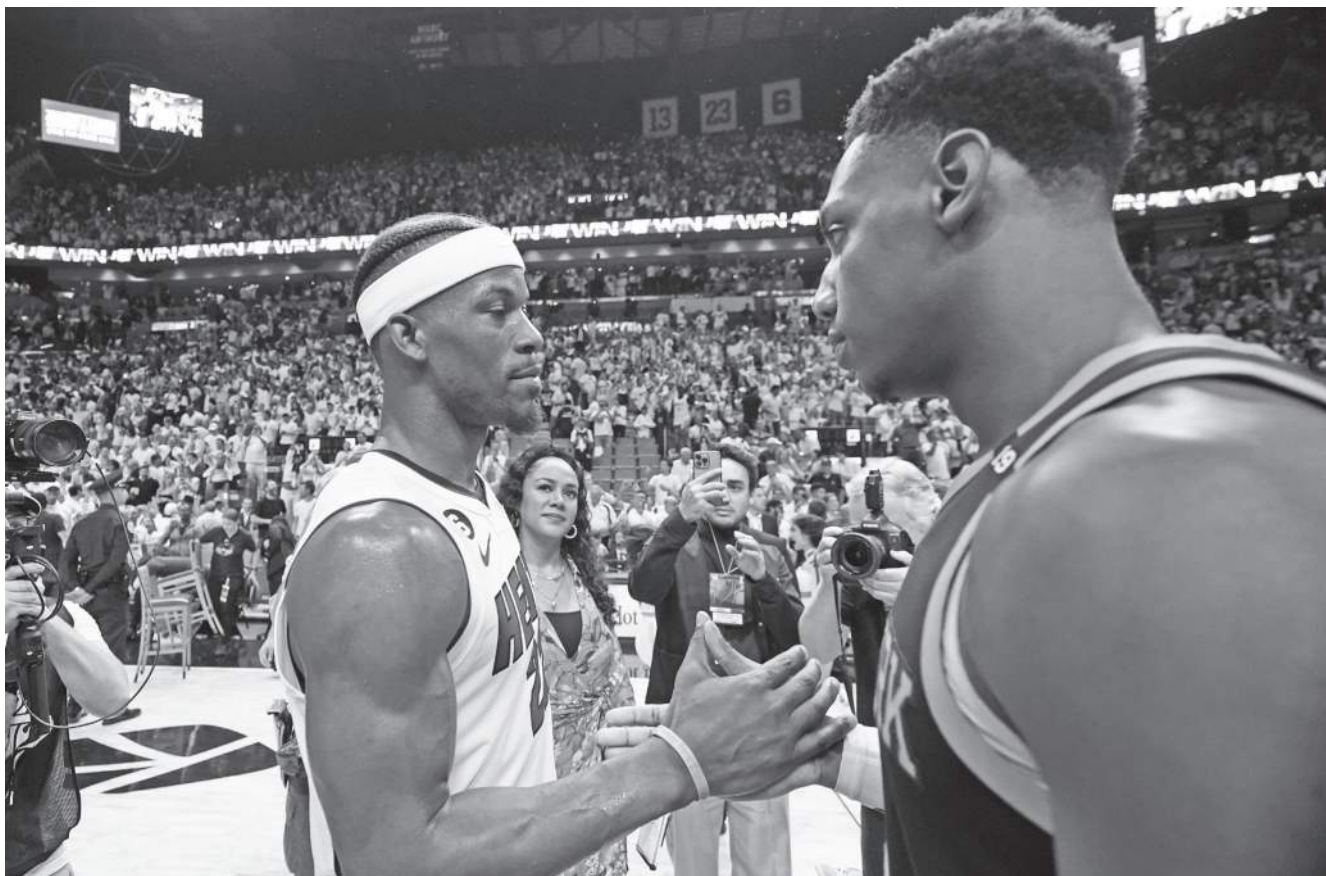
"There's been nothing about this season that's been easy," Spoelstra said.

He's right, and the Heat aren't complaining about that, either—since this anything-but-easy season is still going.

They were a No. 1 seed last year and got to the Eastern Conference finals, and this year, they were a No. 8 seed and still got to the Eastern Conference finals. It took six games to get past New York—the revival of a playoff rivalry from the late 1990s and early 2000s—but the job is done, the clincher coming in a 96-92 win in Game 6 of their East semifinal matchup Friday night.

"It's a crazy story being written," Heat center Bam Adebayo said. "Through all the ups and downs of the season, a lot of people counted us out. We weren't even going to make it past the first round and now we're in the Eastern Conference finals. It just shows the determination and the will this team has."

It's a wild time in South Florida, and the Heat are only half of that story right now.



Miami Heat forward Jimmy Butler, left, and New York Knicks guard RJ Barrett congratulate each other after the Heat beat the Knicks 96-92 during Game 6 of an NBA basketball second-round playoff series, Friday, May 12, 2023, in Miami.

The Florida Panthers—they seed a little differently in the NHL, but they're basically a No. 8 seed as well, just like their NBA neighbors in Miami—are also headed to the conference finals, winning in Toronto on Friday night in overtime to clinch that series in five games.

The Heat and Panthers are following the same path so far; up-and-down regular season, scramble just to get

into the playoffs, then beat the No. 1 overall seed in Round 1—for the Heat it was the Milwaukee Bucks, for the Panthers it was the Boston Bruins—followed by a win over another favored opponent in Round 2. And all that comes on the heels of Miami and Florida Atlantic going to the men's college basketball Final Four last month, Miami going to the women's Elite Eight and Nova South-

eastern winning the Division II men's national title.

"I wish I could actually go to some of these events," Spoelstra said.

He'd rather be busy for a few more weeks. Game 1 of the East finals—at either Boston or Philadelphia, two teams that will play a Game 7 of their East semifinal series on Sunday—awaits on Wednesday. If the Celtics win, it'll be two rematches

of the conference finals from the 2020 bubble restart, with Denver set to face the Los Angeles Lakers for the Western Conference title as well.

"We've got eight more (wins) to get," Heat star Jimmy Butler said. "Like I always say, we're always going to be in this thing together. I'm so, so proud of all of my guys for playing as hard as we did today. And like I said, we've got eight more."

The Heat lost their first play-in game to Atlanta and missed a chance at the No. 7 seed, then needed a 15-1 run to close the second play-in game against Chicago, rally from a late deficit and sneak into the playoffs as the No. 8 seed.

They're 8-3 since and nobody in the playoffs has a better record. Miami has the same record West No. 1 seed Denver posted in its first two rounds, would be the same record as Philadelphia through two rounds if the 76ers win on Sunday, and is a bit better than the 8-4 mark by the Lakers to this point.

"Hopefully we keep it rolling, man," Heat point guard Gabe Vincent said.

The series against the Knicks was not aesthetically pleasing. The Heat shot 43% to New York's 44% and both teams struggled from 3-point range—31% for Miami, 30% for New York.

But the Heat found a way, even after losing a potential clincher in Game 5 and falling behind by 14 early in Game 6. The Heat had a one-point lead at the half and never trailed after half-time, dodging everything the Knicks threw their way.

It wasn't easy. But it was fitting, as Spoelstra said.

"Just an absolute grind," Spoelstra said.

The grind continues, with a trip to Boston or Philadelphia awaiting.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—After every twist and turn in the soap opera saga of LeBron James' four seasons alongside Anthony Davis with the Los Angeles Lakers, one truth remains perfectly clear.

This is a championship-caliber partnership when James and Davis are both healthy.

One or both superstars have been injured for long stretches of the three seasons since their 2020 bubble championship, and the Lakers' road back to contention has been incredibly rocky because of it. The entire roster around them has been completely changed since that ring, but James and Davis are still here, still fighting.

Now they're both healthy

LeBron, AD lead Lakers back to conference finals

at the same time again, and the rest of the NBA has been reminded what happens when this dynamic duo can fly at full strength.

James and Davis were at their best while the Lakers eliminated the defending champion Golden State Warriors in six games, capping a masterful effort with a 122-101 victory Friday night.

When asked why the seventh-seeded Lakers find themselves four games from the NBA Finals just three months after they were six games below .500 and in 13th place in the Western Conference, James praised the front

office for overhauling the roster around the trade deadline with the arrivals of D'Angelo Russell, Rui Hachimura and Jarred Vanderbilt.

But James quickly added a second reason: "Also, staying healthy. We weren't as healthy as we would like to be, but we still played good basketball after the break to put us in the position."

LeBron and AD have won six of their seven playoff series together, losing only when Davis was hurt in the first round against Phoenix in 2021. The Lakers are 95-49 when James and Davis are playing together, and this postseason has been

an archetypal example of what they can do.

They're coming off a tremendously disappointing 2021-22 season in which they missed the playoffs while going 33-49, leading to Frank Vogel's firing and Darvin Ham's arrival. Davis' injury problems limited him to 40 games, while James played in only 56.

But these Lakers are almost nothing like those Lakers: Other than James and Davis, only Austin Reaves and backup big man Wenyen Gabriel remain from last year's roster.

"When you have guys like Bron and AD who have won championships, you always feel like you have a chance, especially with the roster that we have, the talent that we have," said Reaves, the undrafted free agent who seized a starting role down the stretch.

James had 30 points, nine rebounds and nine assists in Game 6, repeatedly making stunning plays that answered anybody who thinks the top scorer in NBA history has lost anything at 38.

Davis was no less impressive with 17 points, 20 rebounds and the looming, athletic de-

fensive presence that changes every opponent's game plan.

Both stars are in remarkably good health as they head into the conference finals against the Denver Nuggets on Tuesday night. Davis came back solidly at home Friday night after missing the end of Game 5 at Golden State following a blow to the head, and he'll be ready to take on Nikola Jokic.

The Lakers had to fight just to get into the postseason, only getting into a play-in spot for good with 2 1/2 weeks left in the regular season. But Los Angeles is 27-12 since the trade deadline, with no back-to-back losses since March 17.

Ham never hesitates to credit his superstars for the Lakers' success, even while he does impressive work in molding the team around them.

"One of the things I wanted to reestablish here was our competitiveness, and then work toward building a team, a roster of players that were together and that weren't afraid to acknowledge what we're doing wrong and how we can fix it," Ham said. "It started with themselves, how can we all be better individually, and then

come together as a group, and I think just throughout the season, the work ethic of LeBron, the persistence of AD, both of those guys."

The Lakers' season has gone from a probable disaster to an undeniable success in the past two months, but nobody appears to be satisfied. After handling every challenge thrown at them in recent weeks, the Lakers are headed into their showdown with top-seeded Denver carrying much more confidence than almost any seventh seed could possess—no surprise, since no seventh seed has reached the West finals since the 1986-87 Seattle SuperSonics.

"From Day One, we've always said we need those three elements to be able to do anything, to have any type of success within an NBA season, and that's the competitiveness, togetherness and accountability," Ham said. "Moreover from that, our work and our preparation will carry us as far as that takes us, and we stayed true to form with that."

"Everyone in the building, through those tough times at the beginning of the season, stayed positive, stayed encouraging."

Krzyzewski joins NBA as special adviser

Mike Krzyzewski is coming out of retirement and heading to the NBA—as an adviser, not a coach.

The league said Wednesday that Krzyzewski, the Hall of Famer and all-time men's college Division I coaching wins leader, is its new special adviser to basketball operations. He will be present next week at the league's general

managers meeting in Chicago, coinciding with the draft lottery and combine there.

"We are honored to have Coach K join the NBA family and share his vast experience and expertise with the league and our teams," said Byron Spruell, the NBA's president of league operations. "As a preeminent coach and renowned leader who cares

deeply about the game of basketball, he is uniquely suited to drive discussions and offer insights about the present and future of the NBA."

The former Duke coach "will provide counsel to the league office, NBA team executives and other leaders across the league on a host of issues related to the game," the league said. (AP)

Bryce Young impresses, shows 'complete command' in 1st practice



C H A R - LOTTE, N.C. (AP)—Bryce Young arrived early for his first NFL practice, then put on a show for his new coaches.

The No. 1 overall pick from Alabama made a great first impression at Friday's rookie minicamp, wowing coach Frank Reich and others with a series of on-target throws while showing poise in the pocket and good decision-making skills.

"I don't want to overdo it on the first day, but he did every little thing right," Reich said. "The little throws out in the flat, the little bubble screen stuff, the deep over (the top) throws, throws in the flat. ... He just threw it with accuracy, saw (the field) well and knew where guys were supposed to be.

Reich said Young showed "complete command" of the offense.

After being selected ahead of childhood friend C.J. Stroud from Ohio State in the draft, Young said he was eager to get on the field

and prove himself.

He wasn't kidding around.

Young arrived at the practice field nearly an hour before the listed start time, and well before most of the media had arrived to snap a picture or grab a video of him arriving in his No. 9 jersey.

Young's objective was to send a message on what he called "a huge day."

"I wanted to set a tone," Young said. "I was just here trying to get stuff down like we all were. In this rookie minicamp we have talked about the themes of the team, and one of them is making sure we are prepared. I think we all want to make the best first impression that we can."

Several of Young's completions during the non-padded practice went to Jonathan Mingo, the team's second-round draft pick from Mississippi—a connection the Panthers hope will turn out to be special for years to come.

On a crossing route, Mingo caught a perfectly thrown spiral in stride before quickly turning up the field toward the end zone.

"I've been on the opposite



AP
Carolina Panthers quarterback Bryce Young gestures during the NFL football team's rookie minicamp, Friday, May 12, 2023, in Charlotte, N.C.

side of Bryce for the last two years (in college) and I'm 0-2 against him, so it's a blessing to finally be on his side," Mingo said. "We have to keep building our chemistry and help the team win. Just keep practicing. Practicing makes us better. He's making me better and I'm making him better."

Between plays, Young received coaching from longtime NFL quarterback Josh McCown, the team's new QBs coach. Mingo took some advice from former Panthers wide receiver and NFL analyst Steve Smith, who stopped by to see the rookies.

Mingo said he was impressed with Young's pres-

ence in the huddle, which included serious moments and others where they joked around and enjoyed the music being pumped in through speakers on the sidelines.

Mingo said Young is "poised, relaxed and smooth" in the pocket, always knowing where he wants to go with the ball.

"He doesn't think too much," Mingo said. "He just goes out and has fun."

Carolina has a lot invested in Young after trading away four draft picks and wide receiver D.J. Moore to move up to the No. 1 overall pick.

Panthers owner David Tepper said he's counting on Young to lead the franchise to multiple Super Bowl titles after five seasons in which the team hasn't found a long-term answer at quarterback.

The Panthers haven't made the playoffs since 2017, the year before Tepper bought the team.

While questions will continue to linger about Young's 5-foot-10, 204-pound stature until he can prove he's tall enough and strong enough to play in the NFL, the early

impressions he made Friday were all positive.

Reich said that Young "mentally and physically, he looked the part in every way."

"He threw the ball exceedingly well," Reich added. "You can tell he was in a good space mentally. He really had a firm grasp on everything we asked."

Young made sure he was prepared coming in, not just by studying the playbook.

He's spent months taking in advice from all sorts of people at the NFL level, both current and former, about how best to transition to the league. That included several talks with former Crimson Tide quarterback Mac Jones, now with the New England Patriots.

Young said Jones has been "super gracious" talking to him about a number of issues.

"I want to do everything I can to set myself up to be successful and to help the franchise," Young said. "A lot of people have helped me. I'm going to keep leaning on the people who have had success and been doing it longer than I have."

FMS

From Page 24

tear them down as they put up a good fight against FMS in what seemed to be a high school—not middle school—showdown. The first couple of minutes went by and both teams had yet to score, but FMS' Giovanni Camacho found the sweet spot and drew first blood, but was immediately retaliated by SIS' Moshe Sikkel.

Both teams were still trying to get into the groove—as SIS tried to navigate through muscle soreness and with

FMS coming off a long break from their game in the morning against DMS.

It was a back-and-forth scoring match when both teams were able to score through both team's tight defenses—but with aggressive defense came with it many fouls—and SIS capitalized as Aiden Camacho scored 2 points, while Audiescott Iakopo scored 1 point in the first half.

The game was at a deadlock in the first half with neither team able to pull far away from the other—as shots made by FMS were followed by shots by SIS—until the first

half ended with just a 1-point FMS lead, 12-11.

Both teams came out from the half time break with a sense of urgency as it was a low scoring and well defended game so far as neither team had easy times at the basket.

A big 3-pointer by SIS' Daniel Joab got FMS riled up and came up with more aggressive defensive tactics that resulted in more fouls. After another marker by Joab, Aiden Camacho was fouled and made both free throws. However, it was still a close game as FMS' Peyton Jake Basa made back-to-back layups accompanied by

two field goals from Giovanni Camacho.

FMS pushed through SIS' faltering and tired defense as Dany Defang scored, followed by a crucial shot from 3-point town by Jairus Pangelinan to put them in the lead—but not by much.

With less than five minutes left in the game, SIS made hasty attacks toward the hoop, as FMS defense were right at their heels—inducing more fouls and two more free throws were made by Theo Joab.

However, SIS missed opportunities to seal the gap closer with failed free throws and resulted in FMS winning

as they put up 6 more points—with SIS unable to catch up anymore as time expired.

FMS head coach Dexter Tenorio, who has been their coach for a year now, said the championship game was like a high school basketball game.

"[SIS players] are very athletic and it was hard for us because it was a really physical game," he said. "We let them play the rough game, but let us play smart. That's how we got the championship."

He said that FMS players, even when there was no official team practice for some time, they still practiced together and that's how they

succeeded. Despite not having an undefeated record in the regular game, they managed to beat top seed DanDan Middle School and push them out of finals contention in the elimination tournament.

The varsity team consisted mostly of 8th graders, with only three 6th graders, and said that they will have a new team next season and will prepare them for it.

Tenorio thanked their supporters, FMS family, his family, the assistant coaches Angel San Nicolas and Ezekial Macario, and God.

FMS 29 – G. Camacho 8, Basa 8, Defang 4, Pangilinan 3, Duenas 2, Lucero 2, D. Camacho 2.

SIS 26 – Camacho 11, D. Joab 7, T. Joab 5, Sikkel 2, Iakopo 1.

Scoring by halves: 12-11; 29-26.

LADY

From Page 24

utes of mainly Lady Geckos possession, they found themselves pushing through SIS defenders, getting closer to the net—and with one kick by Casarino in the 33rd minute, made it a 1-0 game.

Chavez had not given up and made herself as open as she could. She received a few assists but the end was always Carreon making a save.

It was back and forth as both teams tried to push through the other side of the pitch in MHS' effort to put up an insurance goal—and for SIS to tie it up—but both goalies remained steadfast in their positions.

Despite facing wave after wave of Lady Geckos' attacks, Carreon stood firm—denying them a chance to score with

each attempt. Chavez, who had produced the most goals of the season, found herself shut down by the impressive display of goalkeeping by Carreon.

As the clock ticked down, the Lady Geckos threw everything they had at the Lady Dolphins, but MHS' defense

held firm. To add insult to injury, MHS scored a goal in the dying moments of the game through a fine finish by Allyssa Angeles off an assist by Casarino.

Deservedly, Carreon won the game's MVP award; the Golden Boot Award—given to the player with the most

goals this season—went to Chavez with 15.

MHS librarian and soccer coach, Natalie Hill-Byer said, as was obvious in the game, that their strategy was to block off SIS' leading scorer Chavez, and it paid off. "The game was pretty nerve-racking... our strategy was really to shut down their goal maker who is a phenomenal soccer player... and it seemed to work in our favor."

On her goalie, she said "our goalie was phenomenal. I was so excited every time she touched the ball. It's funny because she was kind of pressured to play because she was feeling unsure and wanted a break from soccer, but she changed her mind."

MHS counselor and co-coach Gabi Race said "it's awesome coaching with coach Nat... the game was stressful.



LEIGH GASES

Marianas High School's goalie and finals MVP Erish Carreon staves off a goal attempt by Saipan International School during the first half of their championship game in the 2023 NMIFA-PSS Interscholastic Soccer League last Thursday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.

TANIA

From Page 24

perseveres and exceeds their personal goals. Tania consistently seeks to improve herself and make SIS and the CNMI proud. The pandemic was a difficult time for all athletes and I am glad that the NCAA has extended eligibility another year. Expect more great things to come from Tania!"

She will be making her way to Saipan next month and will race in the 4th Oceania Cup from June 22 to 24—which she said she is "super excited about."



Judge homers twice,
Yankees overcome
6-run deficit, beat
Rays, 9-8.
PAGE 21

Saipan Tribune Sports

Bryce Young
impresses, shows
'complete command'
in 1st practice.
PAGE 23



24 MONDAY, MAY 15, 2023

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

By **LEIGH GASES**
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



The Marianas High School

Lady Dolphins defeated the Saipan International School Lady Geckos in a nail-biter finale of the 2023 NMIFA-PSS Interscholastic Soccer League.

Lady Dolphins goalie Erish Carreon single-handedly shut down the SIS' lead striker in their fight to the finish as MHS came out on top, 2-0, last Thursday at the NMI Soccer Training Center in Koblerville last Thursday.

With SIS star striker Andrei Kaithlyn Chavez leading the charge and with MHS full of national soccer team play-

Lady Dolphins hold off Lady Geckos for soccer tiara

LEIGH GASES

The Marianas High School Lady Dolphins are the 2023 NMIFA-PSS Interscholastic Soccer League champions after defeating Saipan International School, 2-0, last Thursday at the NMIFA Soccer Training Center in Koblerville.



ers, the game could go either way as both teams were evenly matched.

From the starting whistle, the Lady Geckos led by Chavez came out firing on all cylinders. She found herself with the ball early on but also quickly found herself sur-

rounded by Lady Dolphins who would not let her have clear shots at the net.

Carreon was tested from the get-go and immediately made a couple of saves off attempts by Chavez. Carreon was assisted by her defenders' agile and strong defense as their strikers have yet to find the net with the clock winding down the first half.

MHS' Jannah Casarino then found an opening but SIS goalie, Hoo Wang came up with a great save to keep the score tied nothing to nothing.

When SIS found themselves with the ball, Chavez was still heavily defended as she had to make emergency kicks at the net with MHS

putting the pressure on her—resulting in missed goals and saves by Carreon.

Defense for both teams remained strong in the first half with still nothing to show for on the scoreboard as time wound down.

The start of the second half gave the Lady Dolphins a renewed vigor on their offense as they maintained possession of the ball more often than the first half. Chavez, on the other hand, still made attempts at the net but Carreon had not failed keeping the ball from entering. Three more kicks by Chavez would have been goals—but with Carreon defending—it came out to nought.

Then, the Lady Dolphins got a break as after five min-

See LADY on Page 23

FMS closes out season with hoops crown



By **LEIGH GASES**
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

LEIGH GASES

The Francisco M. Sablan Middle School varsity boys basketball team pose with their coach, Dexter Tenorio, second from right, and PSS Athletics Program director Nick Gross, right, after their championship game against Saipan International School in the IT&E Interscholastic Boys Middle School Basketball League 2022-2023 last Saturday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.



LEIGH GASES

Francisco M. Sablan Middle School's Peyton Jake Basa goes for a hard layup attempt as he is defended by Saipan International School's Moshe Sikkell during the first period of their championship game in the IT&E Interscholastic Boys Middle School Basketball League 2022-2023 last Saturday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

The 2022-2023 school sports season ended with a bang as Francisco M. Sablan Middle School overpowered the teams in the double-elimination tournament of the IT&E Interscholastic Boys Middle School Basketball League 2022-2023 and emerged with the championship last Saturday.



Even as the games were pushed until the afternoon, the supporters kept the atmosphere electric as they crowded the Marianas High School Gymnasium to witness a heart-stopping 29-26 championship game between No. 2 seed FMS and

No. 3 seed Saipan International School.

The Geckos came off a busy and exhausting morning as they pummeled through two teams—No. 1 seed DanDan Middle School and Agape Christian School—to get to the finale against the well-rested Napu Riders.

SIS did not let exhaustion

See FMS on Page 23

By **LEIGH GASES**
leigh_gases@saipantribune.com
REPORTER



The CNMI's Tania Tan set a new personal record in the 10,000m event during the Atlantic 10 Outdoor Track & Field Championships at the University of Massachusetts last May 6.

Tan runs for Fordham University in New York and has reset her record in the 10K by completing the outdoor course in 37:10.89.

She shaved almost a whole minute off her recent best of 38:27.06 from April's 57th Colonial Relays at William

Tania breaks 10K PR to end the season



& Mary College in Williamsburg, Virginia.

"I am happy that I was able to break my 10K PR. It feels nice knowing that all my hard work has paid off. Hopefully I can keep progressing and continue to get faster! We shall see," she said about breaking her personal record.

She wrapped up her season with one more race last Saturday at the ECAC/IC4A Championship in Fairfax, Virginia.

She fared with an 18:17 for her 5K. "My body is just tired from the 10K and 5K double last weekend. I kind of knew a PR wasn't in me. But overall,

still happy to end the season healthy with new PRs," she said of her performance in her senior year of college.

"Since it's the end of the season, I've mostly been trying to get as much rest and recovery as possible. Sleep and [nutrition] have been the main priority as the season comes to a close," she said about her training.

CNMI national athletics coach Dr. Ron Snyder said of the former Saipan International School track star, "One [of] the proudest moments for any coach is when an athlete

See TANIA on Page 23